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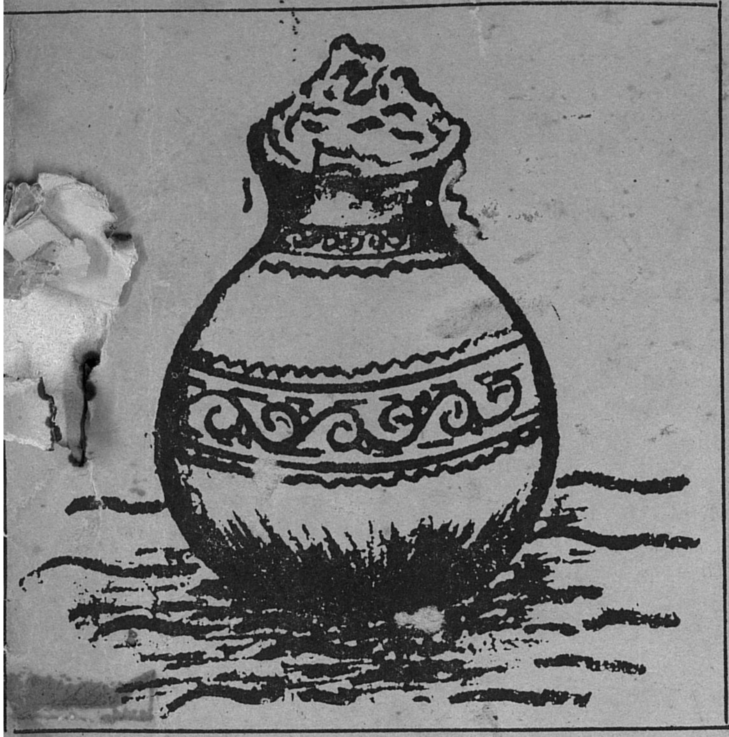

ஆவண அமுதம்

AVANA AMUDHAM

October - December — 1993

Tamil Nadu Archives
Egmore, Madras-600 008

ஆவண அமுதம்

Avana Amudham

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தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக்காப்பகம்,
28-29, காந்தி இர்வின் சாலை,
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Historical Research,

Egmore, Madras-8.

EDITOR'S PAGE

This issue of Avana Amudham contains six articles- four in English and two in Tamil. The article by Dr. S. Santhanakrishnan, on "Historical Research in Education- An overview" is a valuable guidance to the research workers very particularly to those who work in the field of education and history. "The Major Earthquake of Bihar, 1934", located from the records of the Tiruchirappalli Collectorate", by Thiru A.Duraipandian, brings out the horror of an Earthquake, and the steps that were taken for the amelioration of the victims, etc.,

The article on "Land Revenue Administration in Madras" is though a very lengthy one, it's worthy of the labour. It gives the reader even the minutest details on the land revenue system and the wonderful work done by the Britishers in the area of survey and settlements. Thiru D. SrinivasaRaw has used his good experience in Tamil Nadu Archives to cull out this treasure from the early Reports on the Administration of Madras Presidency. The one by Tmt. C. Hemalatha on "Antidote for snake bite and dog bite" is about a pill used to cure poisoning by snake bite and dog bite. It throws light on the medical knowledge of the Tamils and the effect of indigenous system of medicine in poison cases." The Surgeon General's Record"from which Tmt. Hemalatha had the opportunity to extract this, illuminates several such medicinal matters.

The two articles in Tamil are Tharangampadi Palm leaf Records(தரங்கம்பாடி ஓலை ஆவணங்கள்)by Thiru S. Ramachandran and "Archives and its uses"(ஆவணக்காப்பகமும் அதன் பயன்களும்) by Thiru J. Jayachandran. While the

former throws light on the social conditions in Tamil Nadu during the first half of the 19th century. The latter is general in nature which is about the Tamil Nadu Archives and its functioning. A list of books, which are the recent additions to the Tamil Nadu Archives Library", is provided after these articles.

It is proposed to bring this purely as a Research journal. Hence, contributions from scholars, only, research oriented articles, are invited to help us achieve our objective.

K.S.K. VELMANI
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HISTORICAL RESEARCH IN EDUCATION-AN OVERVIEW

by

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628 008 and
P. RAJENDRAN, Ph.D. Scholar.

INTRODUCTION

Etymologically, Historia originally meant learning or knowledge through enquiry. History is a meaningful record of human achivement helps us to understand the past and to some extent to predict the future. It is not merely a list of chronological events, but a truthful integrated account of the relationship between persons, events times and places. We use history to understand the past and to try to understand the present in light of past events and developments. History, in any field of enquiry, is an integrated narrative of past events representing a critical search for the whole truth. Historical approach to the study of any subject denotes an effort to recount some aspects of past life. The possible field for historical research is as broad as life itself. Historical analysis may be directed towards an individual, an area, a movement or an institution. Historical research is the application of scientific method to the description and analysis of past events.

HYPOTHESIS

Although hypothesis are not always explicity sta.. l in historical investigations they are usually implied. Hypothesis may be formulated in historical investigation of education. The historian gathers evidence and carefully evaluates its trustworthyness. If the evidence is compatiable with the consequence of the hypothesis, it is confirmed. If the evidence is not compatiable or negative, hyposthesis is not confirmed. It is such synthesis that historical generalizations are established. Historical research is viewed in three different ways, i.e. 1) historical approach, which refers to the organization of historical facts in support of the new concepts to be developed, 2) historical subject, refering to biographies of great men, monographies of places and sketches of ideas, thoughts and trends and 3) historical technique, which refers to research that is conducted on the basis of historical records and documents.

Historical method of research covers the following sub divisions: 1) historical, 2) legal, 3) documentary, 4) bibliographical, 5) biographical 6) ideational, 7) institutional and 8) organizational.

MAJOR STEPS IN HISTORICAL RESEARCH IN EDUCATION

Historical research differs from research of the experimental type because it is based on reports of observations which cannot be repeated although similar events may recur. But a historical worker has to pass through similar preliminary stages of selecting, stating, defining and delimiting his problem as a researcher using any other method of investigation.

1. collection of data through primary and secondary sources.
2. Internal and external criticism of the data collected and
3. Presentation of facts in a readable form involving problems of organisation, composition, exposition and interpretation.

SOURCES OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH

The historical sources in the field of education have been adopted from the universal application of the historical approach in the study of problems from scientific or social fields. It can be classified into two main categories, namely primary and secondary sources.

1. PRIMARY SOURCES

Primary sources are those original documents or remains which are the first witnesses of a fact. These may be divided into categories.

i) CONSCIOUS TESTIMONY

This includes information in the form of oral or written testimony or the records written or preserved by actual participants or witness of an event eg. constitutions, charters, officials records or minutes, court decisions, films, pictures, paintings, inscriptions, recordings etc.

ii) UNCONSCIOUS TESTIMONY

This includes remains or relics, fossils, tools, weapons, household articles, clothes etc., in literature, arts and institutions of various types.

2. SECONDARY SOURCES

By secondary sources, we mean, the sources of information transmitted by one who was not present on the source of the original event. He was neither a participant in nor an eye witness of the original event. In fact, information supplied is second hand. Most of the encyclopaedias and history text books come under the category of secondary sources. Secondary sources sometimes prove very helpful as they provide information about primary sources. A research worker would do well in collecting data from as many primary sources as he can get hold of. The precept of the primary sources is a good one for behavioural investigators.

CRITICISM OF SOURCES MATERIAL

Historical criticism implies a careful analysis of historical data to shift the truth from falsehood and relevant from irrelevant. Trustworthy of usuable data in historical research are known as Historical evidence.

1. EXTERNAL CRITICISM

External criticism is concerned with the genuineness of the document regarding its age or authorship. It involves many physical and chemical tests of the document, test or signature, hand-writing, script, type spelling, language etc. It is very essential that the validity of the document is tested before it is used for research purposes.

2. INTERNAL CRITICISM

This is concerned with the accuracy of the document. A document may be authentic yet may lack reliability. It is possible that the author was biased or the lacked competency to write document. There are innumerable instances when court chronicles wrote material under pressure of the emperor or rules. There could be many causes which might have led the author of the document to write in accurate or biased material. A careful examination of the document is required before it is used.

a) POSITIVE INTERNAL CRITICISM

The real meaning of the document may be different from its literal meaning. There may be unfamiliar and absolete terms, there may be allegory, symbolism, irony, allusious or rhetorical figures, which distort the real meaning. Positive internal criticism seeks to find out the true meaning of the document.

b, NEGATIVE INTERNAL CRITICISM

This implies attempts to disbelieve the accuracy of the document.

HISTORICAL REPORT WRITING

According Good and Scates, (1954) historical composition is a synthetic and constructive process that involves the followings;

1. Mechanical problem of documentation, 2. The logical problem of selection of topic 3. The logical problem of arrangement of topics and subtopics and 4. the philosophical problem or interpretation.

Research reports should be written in a style that is dignified and objective. However, the historian is permitted a little more freedom in reporting. Historians ordinarily draw their data from the observation and they are likely to have been at the scene of the event. They must use logical inferences to supplement what is probably an incomplete account. No less challenging than research itself is the writing of the report which calls for creativity, in addition to the qualities and resourcefulness.

SELECTION AND ORGANIZATION

The earlier practice in historical writing presented a strictly chronological type of organization. A good writer of educational history must know the historical value and significance of each topic. He must know a historical perspective. The organization of historical material in another way is what is known as the topical, thematic or functional arrangement.

COMPOSITION

The style of historical composition must be dignified and objective, free from fades and frills, but not dull or uninteresting.

INTERPRETATION AND SYNTHESIS

Interpretation of data usually takes place according to one of the many therories (bibliographical, idealistic, scientific economic, geographical or sociological) the researcher holds true. But the best interpretation seems to be one which recognizes the complexity of human nature and the influences of multiplicity of factors in bringing about a particular phenomenon.

HISTORICAL GENERALIZATION

There is some difference of opinions even among historians as to whether or not historical investigations can establish generalization. Most historians would at agree that some generalizations are possible, but they disagree on the validity of applying them to different times and places.

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THE MAJOR EARTH QUAKE OF BIHAR, 1934

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An earth quake occurred on 15th January 1934 in the Provinces of Bihar and Orissa. It was a very severe one in the history of India which caused an appaling loss of life and lot of damages to the properties in the two States. The Government of India and provincial Government had taken urgent actions to render necessary assistance to the people. The Viceroy of India and the Governor of Bihar issued appeals to the Indian citizens to give contributions to the people who had been affected by the earth quake. The Viceroy set up a fund namely "Viceroy's Earth Quake Fund" for this purpose. Necessary publicity was given in the Fort St. George Gazettes and in the District Gazettes in this regard to the people of India.

Dr. Durn of the Geological Survey of India described it as one of the biggest and most extensive earthquakes in history. The tremors extended for beyond the province of Bihar and Orissa but the scene of the greatest destruction was that part of Bihar which lies north of the Ganges and the towns adjoining that area on the southern bank of the river. The extent of areas of the greatest destruction was described as large as the whole of Scotland and five times of its population.

In towns of north Bihar there was probably not one masonry house which was altogether undamaged while thousands of houses were completely destroyed with not a wall standing. In one congested/bazaar of Monghyr the ruin was so complete that for days it was not possible to see where the lines of the street had been amid across of destroyed houses. Some thousands of lives had been lost and those thousands might well have been tens of thousands if the shock had been at night instead of midday. The urban population affected was not less than half a millions souls, some of the towns having a population of from fifty to sixty thousands, while altogether there were twelve towns with between ten thousand and sixty thousand inhabitants which had been wrecked. The people of these towns were for the most part camping in open spaces close to the towns in grass and bamboo sheds of any other makeshift shelter and continued to so exist for months till money and material were made available for them to rebuild their homes. Towns people who were in the greatest distress were mostly small shopkeepers and people of professional classes. Richer men had some reserves to fall back upon. Artisans and labourers had work in plenty at remunerative rates. But a large majority of middle class people who had escaped with little but their lives might have substantial help to rebuild their homes and started life again.

There was no lack of medical aid. Warm clothing and medical comforts had been generally subscribed and were being distributed on a large scale. Assistance for the relief of immediate distress had come from all sides and all classes, but there remained the most urgent need for money to raise up the towns of Bihar again from their ruins. In villages the destruction of houses was not very severe. Mud build huts survived where masorry collapsed and the disaster to the agriculturiest was a different form. Soldiers who had flown over Bihar liken it to a battle field in destruction of land. Over a large area, ryots had their lands spoiled by fountains of water which poured out from fissures and gushers and spread over fields sand to a depth varying from a few inches to three feet or evenmore. The full extent of this damage to some of the most fertile territories in India would not be known for a long time, but in the part which had been visited by the Director of Agriculture and the Director of Industries their estimate was that over an area of two thousand square miles near Musaffarpur, and in Darbhanga one half of the land had been affected in this way and in one-sixty the deposit of sand was deed. Air reconnaissance had shown that this damage was also found in fields of North Bhagalpur and in Purnea districts and was not confined to the part already inspected. Over the whole of North Bihar - Communications had been shattered. Roads and Railways were so damaged that outlying parts could only be reached on foot or by bicycle or by bullock cart and it was impossible to restore reliable communications even with towns like-Sitmarhi for months to come.

The earthquake had in many places changed the level of the country. Embanked roads were found to be now reduced to a level surrounding the country. Old waterways were not functioning and streams had changed their course. Where land was still in a deltaic condition, as in North Bihar, even a slight change of levels completely alters the drainage of the country and it became almost certain that the next monsoon would cause severe - inundation over tracts of land formerly immune from flood.

The section of the community that had suffered very severely outside towns included sugarcane growers and sugar millowners. Sugar had taken the place of indigo in North Bihar and factories which flourished in 'indigo days had now turned completely to sugarcane. Factories with their bungalows were completely destroyed. Seven large mills had fallen and a growing crop of 150 lakhs of maunds (roughly half a million tons) of cane which these would have taken, had to be written off largely as loss. Reconstruction could not be effected in periods of weeks or months, would extend over years and was only at all possible with the most liberal help of the charitably minded throughout the length and breadth of India and beyond. For the reconstruction of Tokyo and Yokohams after IInd World War ten years ago on equivalent of eighty crores of rupees was spent and the need of Bihar could not to be measured in lakhs. Unless the fullest possible support from all sides was given to the Viceroy's Fund for the restoration of Bihar it might remain a stricken country for many years to come.

Appeals were issued by Viceroy of India and the Governor of Bihar and Orissa to the citizens of India for collecting contributions to the Victims of Earth Quake. Their appeals were translated into Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kanarees and were published in the Fort St. George Gazette and in the District Gazettes in the Madras Presidency. Government of Madras communicated the appeals to the Treasury Deputy Collector, all Revenue Divisional Officers, Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars to give wide publicity in Tamil in all the villages in their jurisdiction. The Tahsildars were asked to receive the amount and sent it to the Treasury Deputy Collector, Trichinopoly who maintained a prepared accounts for the amount collected for "The Viceroy"s Earth Quake Fund" and sent periodically the collections reclaimed the Imperial Bank, Mount Road, Madras. The Collectors were asked to arrange to send funds to that account from time to time for transmission to Delhi and inform the Private Secretary to the Governor, Madras giving the names of the donors. Thus a big amount was collected from the people of Trichinopoly District for this fund and it was sent to the Government of India for providing necessary assistance to the affected people of Bihar and Orissa provinces.

Source : - R.Dis.No.505/34, dated 5.9.1934 (in two volumes) of the Office of the Collector of Trichinopoly.

sg/

Land Revenue Administration in Madras

SYSTEM OF SETTLEMENTS.

Early Settlements under the British Governments:-

The first general acquisition of territory by the East India Company - the first from a revenue point of view - was the country round Madras, which now forms the Chingleput district. The revenue of this tract was assigned by the NAWAB of the CARNATIC as a contribution towards the expenses of the wars undertaken in his behalf. At first the direct administration was not assumed; the revenues were collected on the native plan; in 1780, however, the country was leased out by the Company in large farms on nine-year leases. The renters failed and the estates were sequestered in 1788. The district was then placed in charge of one or two Collectors, as the chief revenue officers were called, the term being borrowed from Bengal. The most famous of these, MR.LIONEL PLACE, determined to restore the ancient village organisation as the basis of revenue management and settled the amount of the government revenue with the village councils, leaving it to the villagers to assess themselves individually. This system might have succeeded, but was summarily terminated in 1802. Under the orders of the Court of Directors the district was then divided into estates, each estate being assessed at a fixed sum varying according to its size and resources, and these estates were sold by auction to the highest bidder,

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This is an extract from the Report on the Administration of Madras Presidency.- 1911-12 - pp.73-85.
The extract was culled out by Thiru.D.Srinivasa Row.

The next acquisitions of the Company in point of time were the Northern Circars (administrative divisions) five in number, which form the present districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Godavari, Kistna and Guntur in the north-east of the Presidency. They were obtained by grant from the Delhi EMPEROR in 1765 and came at once under British administration. It was found that they consisted of large farms held by large renters called zamindars (as in Bengal), or in a few cases, by native chiefs whose titles dated from the pre-Mohomedan period, and of crown lands (Haveli lands) reserved for the support of the Governors of the province or members of the royal family and their immediate dependents. The zamindars were left in possession and the crown lands were parcelled out and leased to revenue farmers for a term of years. In 1769, provincial councils were formed after the model of Bengal to supervise the revenue management. They found the work of looking after the zamindaris too great for them and did not effect much. The next step was the appointment by the Court of Directors of a Special Commission or Committee of Circuit to make tours in the districts and institute inquiries into rights and interests. Their instructions were conceived in a liberal and enlightened spirit, but the local councils did not support the members and the renters did all in their power to thwart them. The Commission therefore resulted in failure. In 1786 a Board of Revenue was established in Madras on the pattern of the Board already existing in Bengal, and about the same time individual Collectors took the place of provincial councils in the Circars.

In the same year that the Madras Government entered on the management of the Northern Circars, the Bengal Government assumed that of Bengal, Behar and Orissa; and experiments were conducted in the latter case in very much the same way as in the former. The Bengal Government, however, came earlier to a decision, and when LORD CORNWALLIS arrived in India in 1786 the plan of the permanent settlement with the Bengal zamindars had already been arranged a tentative settlement of the whole of Bengal for a period of ten years was announced in 1789, and in 1792the experiment of a permanent settlement was declared to be confirmed. Pressure was brought to bear on Madras by the Bengal Government to adopt the same policy and the Court of Directors sent out of orders to this effect in 1795. The Madras Board, however, replied that it was hardly prepared to recommend the preparation of the settlement and required time for the collection of further information. In 1799 positive orders were issued from England that LORD CORNWALLIS' permanent system was to be adopted throughout the Madras Presidency. Eventually the Madras Government reported to the Supreme Government that it was possessed of materials for a permanent zamindari settlement in certain parts of the country. A special commission was appointed, and between the years 1802 and 1804 the northern districts of Madras were permanently assessed. The lands already in the hands of zamindars were confirmed to them in perpetuity, the assessment (Peshkash) being fixed at two thirds of half the gross produce estimated on an average of the previous thirteen years. That is to say, half the produce was to be left to the cultivator, one-sixth was to be

the zamindar's share, and the remainder, two-sixths, was the Government revenue. The amount of the latter once fixed was unalterable, no increase ever being leviable on account of extension of cultivation to waste lands. The crown lands were parcelled out into estates of a convenient size assessed in a similar manner and sold as permanently settled revenue farms to the highest auction-bidder. In course of time, however, many of these artificially created estates came back to the hands of Government owing to failure of the purchasers, and the lands then became subject to the ordinary (temporary) settlement, there being none to repurchase them. Though great numbers of zamindaris were sold for arrears, purchasers were generally found for them and they did not cease to be permanently settled estates. Only in a comparatively few cases was there no purchaser, and then the lands were retained by Government as Khas Mahals, i.e., estates retained in the hands of Government. While these measures for the settlement of the more ancient territories of the Company were in progress, new territories were added to the Presidency and the question of land assessment came up again for discussion in connection with the part of the country ceded to the English in the south.

In 1792 the first war with TIPU SULTAN of Mysore placed a considerable tract of country comprising the present districts of Salem, part of Madura, and Malabar in the hands of the British. The second war with TIPU added Canara

and Coimbatore. According to a treaty with the NIZAM OF HAIDARABAD in 1800, what are now called the Ceded Districts, viz., Bellary, Anantapur, Kurnool and Cuddapah, were ceded in perpetuity. In 1801 all the remaining possessions of the NAWAB of ARCOT, in the Carnatic comprising the present districts of Nellore, North and South Arcot, Chittoor (excepting a portion), Madura, Ramnad, Trichinopoly and Tinnevelly were made over to the British, thus carrying their possessions down to Cape Comorin. The state of Tanjore had been brought under British management in 1799 owing to the incapacity of its Hindu ruler. In the territory thus newly acquired, the same distinction was found as in the Northern Circars. That is to say, there were lands held by numerous chieftains (poligars) and lands held direct from Government.

CAPTAIN READ AND SIR THOMAS MUNRO'S SETTLEMENT.

The village-lease system, 1798:-

The general idea was to make a permanent settlement, but with whom was not determined. CAPTAIN READ's instructions, were to grant leases to the headmen or the chief inhabitants of each village, that is to say, one or more individuals were to be selected to hold the settlement and to pay, according to the terms of the lease the amount that might be agreed upon as the revenue of the village. The leases

were to be annual at first, but after sufficient information had been gathered, it was hoped that leases might be made for periods of five years. To begin with, READ offered terms to the headmen of single villages or groups of villages based on the recorded assessment of HAIDAR'S reign, corrected by comparison with accounts of actual cultivation. At the same time the interest of the cultivator was guarded and a detailed field survey was made. This led to the idea of assessing each field according to its quality and leaving the cultivator free to keep the field or relinquish it and take another. The survey was finished and the assessment oneach field determined by the year 1798, and a proclamation was made setting forth the terms of the settlement, one of the conditions being that all the resident cultivators of a village should be jointly responsible for the revenue due on all the lands cultivated during the year.

Extension of Permanent Settlement, 1803-1805:-

This was not the kind of 'village-lease' which the Board had intended, and an explanation was called for. Meanwhile READ was called away to the second Mysore war, and the consideration of what had been done was suspended by the attempt to carry out the orders to introduce the permanent settlement. In accordance with the orders received in 1799, the Baramahal was divided in the years 1803-1805 into numerous revenue farms which were sold by auction to the

highest bidder. A great many of the farmers, however, failed in the second year after having pillaged the villages in their farms, and many estates fell into the possession of Government again. It became evident that the permanent settlement could not be carried out, and a return was made to READ's system, which was in fact a ryotwari settlement, i.e., a settlement with each individual cultivator (ryot). The estates held by a few of the poligars in the Ceded districts and in the Carnatic districts were permanently settled, but in the majority of instances the poligars attempted to resist the British authorities in the hope of continuing the same lawless course of exactions and plunder that they had adopted before the annexation and were therefore destroyed or dispossessed.

Reversion to village-lease system, 1808:-

The attempt to create artificial estates, which were to be assigned in perpetuity subject to the payment of a fixed sum as peshkash or land revenue, was a general failure, and at last it became apparent that the conditions of by far the greater part of the Presidency were unsuited to the introduction of the zamindari system. In 1808 the Government of Fort St.George determined to recur to the system of 'village-leases' in the districts in which the permanent settlement had not been established, and in which settlements were made with the individual cultivators and the revenue collected from them by Government servants on the principles worked

out by READ, MUNRO, and the men who had served under them. The Chief objects of the change of system appear to have been economy and a desire to introduce a plan of settlement approximating to the Zamindari settlement in perpetuity. Under the village-lease system the settlement was to be made with the village headman or with the general body of villagers, or, failing them, with a renter. The revenue due to Government was to be assessed on the average of the amount collected from the village in previous years. The leases were to be for triennial periods; they were afterwards made decennial. The great difference between this system and the ryotwari system was that, under the latter the cultivators were at liberty to extend or curtail their holdings and were only responsible for the payment of the revenue assessed on the fields actually held by them; under the former the lessee had no power of relinquishing any portion of his holdings during the currency of the lease. It was not a successful experiment on the whole. The most general cause of failure was over-assessment. Lessees could not be found for many villages, and in these the ryotwari system was continued.

Introduction of the ryotwari system, 1817:-

One great advantage of the ryotwari system was the opportunity it afforded of acquiring information respecting revenue matters, of ascertaining the dues of Government and the rights of the cultivators. The universal introduction of

the zamindari system had been held in abeyance for fear of sacrificing the interests of Government in the then imperfect state of knowledge, and the ryotwari system was discontinued in favour of the village-lease system before all the benefits it was capable of yielding had been realized.

However, in 1817 the Court of Directors issued instructions for the abolition of the village-leases and the re-introduction of the ryotwari system wherever practicable. In 1820 MUNRO become Governor of the Madras Presidency and took his seat in time to preside over the final establishment of the ryotwari system. The early ryotwari settlements had many defects. Restrictions were placed upon the relinquishments of land, and heavy assessments were imposed on garden lands, i.e., lands cultivated with special crops. The survey and settlement were conducted so rapidly that there were very great inequalities. The assessments were largely dependent so much on the estimates of produce as on former assessments which had been run up to a high pitch under the Mysore Government or the Nawab, as the case might be. Such rates were liable to become unbearable when the selling price of grain became very low as it did for a number of years, Hence various devices were resorted to in order to mitigate the burden. All this has now given way to careful survey and deliberately framed and carefully equalized assessments. Garden lands have been classified and assessed as dry lands in all districts except Malabar and South Canara, in which districts, owing to peculiar conditions of garden cultivation,

it has been found necessary to assess gardens at special rates.

Ryotwari Settlement :- Before proceeding to describe the machinery by which the existing settlements have been effected, the modern meaning attached to the term ryotwari settlement may be explained. It means the division of all arable land whether cultivated or not into 'fields' and the assessment of each 'field' or group of fields at a fixed rate for a term of years. The 'field' is an arbitrary area. Where a survey-field comprises the holdings of two or more occupants it is sub-divided where such holdings are separately identifiable. Survey-fields may also be sub-divided to distinguish portions transferred or relinquished. Sub-divisions are surveyed and marked on the field maps but not demarcated on the ground. The occupant pays the revenue so assessed on the area he actually occupies. This area may be constant, or may be varied from year to year by the relinquishment of old fields and the taking up of new. The occupant deals directly with the Government and is responsible for no one's revenue but his own. He is given a documents called a patta, which sets forth the extent and assessment of each survey field or sub-division thereof in his occupation. This patta is liable to revision every year so as to bring it into accord with the actual state of affairs. The occupant thus enjoys all the advantages of proprietorship, subject only to the payment of the revenue due

on the lands held during the year. The lands can be inherited, sold or burdened for debt in precisely the same manner as a proprietary right, provided that the person in whose name the land is registered in the Government accounts pays the revenue due to the State. The average area of each holding is a little over 6 acres.

Institution of the Settlement Department, 1855:-

The Government determined in 1855 that a general revision of assessments should be made throughout the Presidency, founded on an accurate survey and a more or less exact classification of soils which seemed the only right basis of a land-revenue settlement. The Government of India and the Home Government concurred in the necessity of the measure, and the Revenue Settlement Department was constituted in 1858. The Settlement Department at first undertook to demarcate the village and field boundaries. This was a tedious process involving much arbitration and the investigation of many disputes. The marks erected in many cases were temporary and destructible, and had frequently to be renewed by others of a more permanent nature. This unsatisfactory work continued to occupy much time and attention, until the demarcation of boundaries was made over to the Survey Department in 1864. The results of certain operations of the department were not, in the opinion of Government, satisfactory. Its organisation as a separate department distinct from the local revenue establishments, was held to be defective, and

the experience and knowledge of the district officers were lost, their interest not being enlisted. Government accordingly resolved to place all settlement operations under the immediate supervision of District Officers controlled by the Board of Revenue. The new system was introduced in two districts. Tinnevelly and Nellore. But in Nellore the experiment resulted in such a failure that in 1868 Government transferred the settlement back to the special department on the ground that the retention of the special department was the only method by which it was possible to ensure celerity and efficiency in settlement work, consistency and uniformity in the details of re-assessment and a fair measure of relative equality in the resulting taxation, and to save the country from the neglect which must occur if the Collector and subordinate revenue officers were withdrawn from their ordinary duties. Settlement operations continued everywhere, except in Tinnevelly, under the control of the special department till the then Director to the Board of Revenue, that appointment was placed in abeyance for some months. But in the following year decision was given in favour of the continuance of the department under a separate head.

The department continued to be so administered till the later part of 1879. When, in consequence of financial exigencies, the appointment of Director was abolished, and the strength of the department reduced by about half. The department, under these altered conditions, was, administered by a member of the Board of Revenue.

The arrangement lasted till the end of 1882, when the appointment of Director was revived and conjoined with that of the newly constituted Directorship of Agriculture.

But at the reorganisation of theBoard of Revenue in April 1887, the department was again placed under the direct charge of the Board, one of its members assuming the portfolio under the designation of the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of Land Records and Agriculture. In 1903, the Survey Department was placed under the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and his designation was changed into Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Survey, Land Records and Agriculture.

ORIGINAL SCHEME OF SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT:-: The scheme of survey and settlement as originally sketched out is shown under the following fourteen heads:

(1) a revenue survey showing all the principal variations in the surface of the soil as hills, jungles, roads, channels, tanks, topes, houses, cultivated and cultivable lands, and also exhibiting accurately the sizes of the fields in these last two classes of land;

(2) the minimum size of fields was to be one acre of wet, and two acres of dry land; interstitial holdings were to be treated as sub-divisions of such fields;

(3) permanent boundary marks were to be established, and, field, village and taluk maps prepared;

(4) assessment was to be ryotwari;

(5) the terms of the annual settlement made with each ryot were to vary simply with the area and quality of the lands held by the ryot, and his use or non-use of water from a Government source;

(6) Soils were to be divided into a few classes based on real, tangible differences of composition;
(7) the settlement officer was to estimate, as nearly as possible, the productive powers of the land, stated in quantities of some one of the ordinary grain crops paddy for irrigated lands, andcumbu,cholam or some other grain for unirrigated; these estimates (grain out turns) were to form the basis of the ultimate assessment; they were to be carefully made on such a scale as would allow for indifferent crops and bad seasons;
(8) the land was then to be valued with regard to nearness of village roads, markets, irrigation facilities, etc., and the field or village was to be classed accordingly;
(9) the assessment was to be moderate; existing rates were generally based on50 percent of thegross produce for wet, and 33 percent for dry, lands; SIR THOMAS MUNRO's maximum was 30 percent, and this was now adopted on the assumption that the average assessment would be about 25 percent of the gross produce;
(10) the ryots' payment was to vary every 7 or 10 years with the commutation price of thestandard crop to be calculated on the average of the prices prevailing during the previous 7 or 10 years;
(11) it was believed that itwould not be found necessary to divide the country forthe purpose of official scales of prices, i.e., one scale was toapply to the entire Presidency for the term adopted; but this principle was abandoned in practice, and the commutation prices for eachdistrict havebeen calculated independently;
(12) the grain out turns were to be unalterable for a period of 50 years;
(13) it was to be open to the ryot to compound for a fixed annual payment for a term of years; and
(14) the Survey Department and the Settlement Department were to be separate, the former under a Surveyor-General, the latter under a Superintendent of Settlement.

SUBSEQUENT MODIFICATIONS:- Objections taken subsequently with regard to certain detailed points were decided at different times as enumerated below:-:

(1) the restriction asto the size of fields has been removed; the maximum was once fixed at 2 acres for wet and 4 for dry land; but now, as arule, each revenue-field(i.e., each parcel of land on which previously a separate assessment is fixed) will form a survey-field; in exceptional cases two or more revenue fields may be clubbed together subject to the following conditions:-

- (a) every survey-field so formed must consist of entire revenue fields;
- (b) no survey-fields so united should exceed six acres of wet or 12 acres of dry land;
- (c) the revenue fields forming a survey field should be held on the same tenure; inam andryotwari land should not be taken together;
- (d) no existing revenue field need bedivided, however large;

(2) the assessment was to be made on the net produce; i.e., after deducting the expenses of cultivation and a percentage for vicissitudes of season, unprofitable areas, etc., in 1864 the Government share ofthe net produce was fixed by the Secretary of State at one-half;

(3) the term of settlement was tobe 30 years, i.e., both grain out turns and commutation prices were to remain unalterable for that period; subsequently it was decided that at each settlement or re-settlement of a district Government would fix at their discretion the period for which such settlement or re-settlement should be in force, and on theexpiry of that period Government would revive the assessment in such manner as might then seem just an proper, either with reference solely to a rise or fall in, prices, or with reference alsoto otherconsiderations such as would require a re-classification of soils or a re-calculation of the grain out turns;

(4) leases for a term of years at reduced rents were found to be unnecessary for the encouragement of large holdings; (5) another important question which came up for disposal at the time of the initial settlement of the districts of Godavari, Kistna and Guntur was the method to be adopted in assessing the additional amount to be paid, over and above the land assessment, for water supplied from Government irrigation sources such as the Godavari and Kistna canals; in these districts it was decided to impose a uniform charge of Rs.4 per acre for irrigation supplied for a single crop, in addition to the land assessment, which was determined as if the land was unirrigated; it was desired to adopt a similar plan in all other districts where it was found practicable; as a matter of fact, however, the only other district in which the system has been introduced is Kurnool, in some parts of which irrigation is supplied from a canal which was originally worked by the Madras Irrigation Canal Company under a guarantee from Government, and the principle was maintained when the Company's wirjs were taken over by Government; the land-assessments were fixed without reference to the facilities for irrigation; in districts subsequently settled, the assessment on irrigated lands was determined by a consideration of the value of the paddy (rice) crop grown on the best irrigated land, gradations of rates being formed to meet the conditions of inferior qualities of soil or defects in the sufficiency or regularity of the water supply; this system of consolidated wet assessment was extended to the irrigated lands under the Godavari, Kistna and Kurnool Cuddapah canals at the re-settlements of those districts; (6) formerly it was the practice to charge the rates settled for irrigated lands, on lands irrigated by wells were situated within a distance of ten yards of a Government source

or irrigation, although Government had incurred no expense in sinking the wells; the justification for this course was that the wells derived their water supply by percolation from the Government source. Under recent orders, however, such lands are no longer assessed as irrigated, and the cultivator is allowed to enjoy the benefit of irrigation from his well free of any additional charge.

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION:- In the first instance it is necessary to obtain a general view of the characteristics of the district. Particulars of the climate, rainfall and physical features of such tracts or divisions as differ from each other distinctly have to be ascertained; information relative to its past history, its years of plenty of famine, its land tenures, mode of taxation, and the causes of gradual progress has to be obtained from the Collector's records; the relative values of such sources of irrigation as the various tracts possess have to be estimated; a general idea of the prevailing soils must be acquired; at the same time, information is gathered as to how different tracts are affected by roads, canals, markets, towns, hill ranges or seaboard; the methods of cultivation pursued, the crops grown, the mode of disposal of surplus grain, the markets mostly frequented and the wages paid to labourers have to be inquired into. A district is for administrative purposes, divided into taluks; each taluk has to be visited and the revenue officers and leading cultivators consulted.

CLASSIFICATION OF SOILS:- The next step is to classify the soil. At first the number of sorts in a class was only two, but experience proved such a scale to be too in elastic, and the number was increased first to three and then to five, viz., best, good ordinary, inferior worst. In determining

the classification, the soil is turned up to the depth of about 9 inches. The classification of each field is noted on thevillage map andin a register. It is usually found that soils run in considerable blocks round which a line can be drawn on themap. Inside the block small differences in a few scattered fields are disregarded to avoid multiplying blocks.

CLASSIFICATION OF FIELDS:- A revenue system based on field assessment seems to demandnaturally and necessarily the separate classification of each individual filed, and this is the sanctioned method of the department; it is, at the same time, laid down that though the details of classification extend to each field, the wider comparative view of the operations should never be lost sight of, as it is most desirable that the land should be viewed in a comprehensive way by the classifier.

GRAIN OUT TURN: The next stage is to ascertain what amount of crop each different class and sort of soil will produce. The same kind of crop is not always grown on the same soil, nor on the same field, from year to year. It is necessary, therefore, to choose one or more standard grains (always food-grains) as food products are the ultimate standards of values) to represent the general or average produce. The crop most extensively grown on irrigated lands is paddy(rice); on unirrigated (or dry)lands several varieties of food-grains are grown; and the crop cultivated on the largest area according to the cultivation accounts is usually selected as the standard, or more often two crops are taken, the areas under other crops being for settlement purposes presumed to be cultivated with one or other of these according to the relative value of the crop. A fair average

out turn of the standard grains is then ascertained per acre of each class and sort of soil and this is called the grain out turn. The criterion of such out turns is experience, and this is sought in experiments by officers of the Settlement and Agricultural departments, in the knowledge acquired during long years of service by Tahsildars and similar responsible officers of Government, in the records of produce entered in the old village accounts, and in the admissions of the ryots. The actual experiments consist in reaping threshing and measuring the crop upon small areas in selected fields. The number of experiments in some districts has exceeded two or even three thousand.

The results are taken as a general guide to the grain out turns and no more. The experimental reapings (or Kails as they were called), however, are now to a great extent given up, and general inquiries and statistics already collected are relied on instead.

COMMUTATION PRICE:- The grain out turns are next commuted into money. The commutation price is fixed on an average struck on the prices of a long series of years, so as to ensure that the advantages of good, and losses of bad, years may be balanced, and to preclude all risk of the Government share of the produce being sold to the ryot at a price which he cannot always command; and a percentage allowance (formerly 10 and now generally 15 percent) is made for cartage of grain to markets and for merchants' profits. For all the earlier settlements, the average taken was based on the prices of the 20 years from 1845 to 1864. But since 1885 the period has, under the orders of Government, been altered into the twenty non-famine years immediately preceding each settlement. From the results obtained by applying the commutation rate a deduction of from one-sixteenth* to one-fourth is usually allowed on account of

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* one-twentieth is allowed in the case of lands under first class sources of irrigation in Nellore.

vicissitudes of season, and in view of the fact that the survey areas of fields include small extents of uncultivated land, such as field-ridges, irrigation distributaries, etc.,

COST OF CULTIVATION:- Against the average value of the produce thus determined has to be set off the 'cost of cultivation', the estimation of which is one of the most difficult of the various steps in connection with a settlement. The items of cost usually included in the estimate are (1) ploughing cattle, (2) agricultural implements, (3) Seed, (4) manure, and (5) Labour required for ploughing, sowing, reaping, etc., The method of calculation varies according to the description of crops grown, and the method of cultivation, as well as according to the mode in which these items are paid in each district. In some, payments are made in grain, in others in money and in some in both grain and money. The payments made in grain are converted into money at the commutation price adopted for the settlement. The cost of bullocks and of the implements of husbandary is distributed over the number of years during which they are estimated to be serviceable, and the other items are calculated for each year. Calculations are first made for the area which can be cultivated with one plough and one pair of bullocks, and the required calculations for an acre are deducted from them. The usual practice is to work out the expenses for the best soil, and then to diminish this standard proportionately according to the quality of soil. This method is open to objection on the ground that the cost of cultivating poor soils is greater if a maximum yield is sought therefrom than for superior soils. But it is to be borne in mind that the Cultivator

is content with a much smaller relative out turn from inferior soils, and omits many processes such as repeated ploughings, manuring, weeding, and hoeing, which are resorted to on more fertile lands. Now, the expenses of cultivation are taken to be the same as has been already determined in neighbouring settled districts. These expenses being deducted from the gross assets, i.e., the value of the total out turn, the result is the approximate net produce of the land under examination, and half of this, or more often rather less than half, is taken as the Government demand. The 'straw' is usually taken as a set off against the item 'feed of bullocks'.

ASSESSMENT: The principle has always been that the assessment is to be moderate. The old rates were generally based on 50 percent, of the gross produce for wet, and 33 percent for dry, land. When revision began, the maximum was reduced to 30 percent., the average assessment being about 25 percent. But in the course of time a gross-produce percentage was not considered sufficiently accurate. Net produce was to be ascertained by deducting the cost of cultivation, etc.,as explained in the last paragraph, and in 1864 the Government share or revenue was fixed at half the duly ascertained net produce. Recent calculations have shown that the ryotwari revenue actually collected at the present time is less than 10 per cent of the gross produce.

INCREMENT REMISSIONS:- In introducing the new rates the ryots are granted 'increment remissions' in cases where the new assessment is greater than the old beyond a certain percentage; if the increase in individual cases exceeds 25 percent of the old assessment, the old assessment plus 25 percent, of that assessment will be levied in the first year and the reminder remitted, if the full amount of the

new assessment cannot be reached by the twelfth year, the balance remaining after levying 25 percent in the first year will be levied in equal instalments in the succeeding eleven years. Increases of Rs.3 and less will be levied in the first year whatever the percentage may be.

THE SETTLEMENT REGISTER:-

The Settlement Register is the foundation on which the whole revenue administration rests. It forms a complete 'Domes day book' recording accurate information regarding every separate holdings, large or small. The area of each field is given in acres and cents or hundredths of an acre, and the assessment thereon is noted against it. A single field on the survey map may actually be divided amongst twenty ryots. In such a case there will be twenty sub-divisions, and each ryot will have a separate sub line in the register giving full particulars of his holding, eventhough the extent of it be no more than one-hundredth part of an acre. From the register is prepared a ledger known as the chitta which gives each ryot's personal account with Government. Every field or fraction of a field held by the same ryot is picked out from the settlement register, and entered in this ledger under his name with particulars of the area, assessment and other details. The total of the areas shows the extent of his different holdings in the village, and the total of the assessments is the amount due thereon by him to Government. A copy of this, his personal account is given to each ryot with a note as to the date on which each instalment falls due and is known as his patta. An English descriptive memoir giving full details touching each village and its settlement, and an account of all lands held tax-free or on favourable tenure is also printed. A sketch map of the village showing

the tanks and channels, and all similarly assessed fields laid out into blocks is attached to it. The descriptive memoirs of all the villages in each taluk consecutively numbered are bound into one or more volumes with their respective sketches and thus supply complete information regarding every village.

PATTAS:- The introduction of settlement is effected by the issue of pattas to those entitled to them, and this is one of the most important parts of the process of settlement. In the districts first settled, it was thought sufficient to issue pattas in the names of persons entered in the accounts as they then stood, but latterly more has been done and many thousands of pattas have, after due inquiry, and where no civil disputes arise, been changed from the names of deceased ryots or vendors to those of the actual occupants of the lands exhibited in them.

JAMABANDI:- The duration of the settlements and re-settlements hitherto carried out is 30 years. During that period, neither the grain out turns nor the commutation rates are altered. But, as under the ryotwari system, each cultivator is free to hold or relinquish whatever fields of his holdings he like, or to take up other available fields, and, as, deductions are sometimes made from his total assessment, there must be an annual setting up to show what lands each ryot has actually held, and what amount, on all accounts, he has actually to pay for the year; his patta may be revised or he may, if necessary, be given a fresh patta every year. This process, which is called the annual settlement or Jamabandhi, is conducted not by the special department but by the ordinary revenue staff. In this way the information recorded in the settlement registers is periodically corrected, so that when the existing settlement expires and revision becomes requisite, it will in general, merely be necessary to determine what the revised rates of assessment shall be, and to substitute these for the existing rates entered in the village accounts.

Re-settlement:- Initial settlements having been carried out in all districts throughout the Presidency, the operations to be carried out in the future will be almost entirely re-settlements. A re-settlement consists in a revision of the rates of assessment which were calculated not on holdings but on fields which may now be in the same or in different holdings. In revising these rates, changes in prices, in means of communication, in the accessibility of markets and in the quality of the irrigation sources since the original settlement, are taken into consideration, together with any other indications of economic progress or retrogression. And, as a rule, the rates are raised or lowered all round in defined tracts by the same percentage. A re-settlement may also be made by remodelling the original settlement by a re-classification of soils and the application of a new set of money rates based on a fresh calculation of grain outturns, cultivation expenses etc.

The Remission Rules - From what has been said above it will be seen that, in the various calculations made in fixing the final money rates on each field, allowances are made for seasonal failure and various other agricultural risks. As a matter of policy, however, remissions either total or partial of these rates are granted as a matter of grace, under executive instructions in cases of loss of crop. Such remissions have occassionally been allowed to cure mistakes in assessment, which the utmost care cannot always prevent; but relief on this ground is rarely required since Government are always ready

and willing to correct, after a settlement has been introduced, any error which, in particular instances, may have led to over-assessment. The circumstances which render the grant of remissions expedient are the frequency of droughts or of immoderate rain, the enormous number of petty holdings, the improvidence of a large proportion of the cultivating class, and the undesirability of keeping arrears hanging over their heads for a series of years. Owing to the multipilicity of holdings and the general numberical weakness of the revenue staff, enquiry into individual losses is often impracticable; and relief can usually be rendered only where the loss of crop can be readily located, estimated and verified; and it is essential that it should reach the ryot. These considerations have been kept in view in the rules actually issued from time to time. In the case of 'wet' land, which is of comparatively limited area and productive of comparatively valuable crops, total failure of the crop over the plots registered in the accounts and demarcated on the ground as separate fields, or sub-divisions is a fact readily ascertained and verified; and the rules empower the Collector to remit the assessment in such cases in all years. In the case of failure, total or partial, of crops on 'dry' land and the case of partial failure in "wet" land, whether this takes the form of an indifferent yield over a whole fields or of a total failure of crop in parts of a whole field, the loss in particular fields is

not only difficult to ascertain but its determination by subordinate officials is not susceptible of any satisfactory check. To meet these cases, therefore, an allowance is made at settlement in reduction of the assessment which practically meets the losses of all but exceptionally unfavourable seasons. To provide for the calamities of exceptionally bad years the rules allow of a proportionate remission of assessment uniform over tracts where the crops have suffered in a marked degree. The remission rules as stated above are executive instructions, liable to be altered from time to time at the pleasure of the Government.

CHARACTER OF LAND TENURES *

The following are the main varieties of land tenures under the Government:- (i) perpetual free-holds held under a title-deed showing proprietorship as against the Government, and paying no land revenue; (ii) enfranchised inams, or grants of land or of the land revenue thereon, held under a title-deed showing proprietorship as against the Government, and paying a quit-rent fixed for ever, calculated at a favourable rate; (iii) zamindaris, or landed estates held under a sanad or title-deed showing proprietorship as against the Government, and paying a land revenue or peshkash fixed in perpetuity; (iv) unsettled palayams, or landed estates held without sanads, the land revenue on which may be raised at the pleasure of the

* Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency, 1911-12, pp 55-59.

Government (v) individual holdings under what is termed ryotwari tenure without a sanad expressly declaring proprietorship and paying a revenue subject to additions and deductions in certain special circumstances and subject to revision at intervals of thirty years; (vi) inam holdings including jagirs, or grants of land or of land revenue, held under a tenure dependent on the fulfilment of certain conditions; (vii) land held on special conditions as (a) on improvement leases called cowles, and (b) under the favourable rules for planting topes or groves of trees.

Perpetual Freeholds:- The perpetual freeholds now existing were created under the rules for the redemption of land revenue and quit-rent on enfranchised inams under the rules in force during the latter half of the nineteenth century. Under these rules the redemption of land revenue was permitted in the case of (i) sites of buildings (ii) gardens of limited extent attached thereto, and (iii) hill plantations of exotic products, such as tea, coffee, cinchona, etc. The rate of redemption was first fixed at twenty-five times the annual land revenue; but, in 1895, it was raised to twenty-nine times such sum. In Zamindaris the registered zamindar alone was given the right to redeem the land revenue. In the case of ryotwari lands, the ryot holding directly from the Government alone had the right. On payment of the redemption money in full, with the cost of survey and demarcation, the party redeeming the revenue was furnished with a title-deed. The

redemption of quit-rent on enfranchised inams introduces the question of the inam tenures of this Presidency; but it is only necessary here to mention that inamdars holding lands enfranchised from service, or from resumption by Government, but subject nevertheless to a quit-rent, were allowed until recently to redeem that quit-rent in perpetuity. In the case of the inam title-deeds issued before the 28th February 1895, the sum payable for the redemption of quit-rent was fixed at twenty times the amount but in the deeds issued after that date, it was stipulated that the quit-rent should be redeemed by thirty years' purchase. Having regard to the disadvantages arising from the capitalization of the State's annual revenue from land, Government decided in 1896 that the redemption of land-revenue should be disallowed except in cases in which they had already pledged themselves to allow it. No absolute free-holds can therefore be now newly acquired in this Presidency. The holders of free-holds have unlimited powers of alienation. The free-hold is absolute against that demand of the Government only which represents the Government's right to share the produce, and gives no immunity from other Government demands, such as for irrigation, roads, sanitation, education and so forth; in all of which cases the land may be subjected to separate cesses or demands. The redemption in no way affects sub-tenures, rights of occupancy, or other similar rights; and the freedom conferred is absolute only against the Government.

Inams enfranchised, but unredeemed:-

Holders of enfranchised inams, who at the time of enfranchisement were granted the option of redeeming at any time the quit rent payable on their lands, but have not availed themselves of the concession, have full power of alienation and pay quit-rent; but such quit-rent is not liable to periodical revision.

Zamindaris:- In the case of zamindaris, the land has been assigned in perpetuity with a proprietary title as against the Government. The land revenue technically called 'Peshkash', is a charge on the land. Zamindars hold under a deed termed a 'Sanad-i-milkeut istimrar' and give in exchange a correspon-ding kabuliyat, or acceptance Act 2 of 1904 declares certain estates to be impartiable and also inalienable beyond the life-time of their proprietors except in circumstances which entitle the managing member of a joint Hindu family, not being the father or grand-father of the other co-parceners, to make an alienation of the joint property binding on the shares of the other co-parceners independently of their consent. The alienation of an impartible estate beyond the life-time of its proprietor for the payment of land-revenue due to Government is also prohibited unless the written consent of the Collector of the district in which the estate is situated is first obtained. In the case of zamindaris not brought within the scope of the Act, the proprietors are at liberty to transfer, without the previous consent of the Government, their right in the whole or part, however, small, of their

zamindaris to any person they please by sale, gift or otherwise; and such transfers are to be held valid and to be respected by the courts and officers of Government, provided that theyare not repugnant to the Mahomedan or Hindu law, or to the regulations of the British Government. In order to be valid against the Government, and in order to liberate the transfer from his liability to pay Government dues, such transactions must be first registered in the Collector's office; and where the alienation is of a sub-division of the estate, the peshkash on the sub-divided portion must be determined by the Collector. The Government do not regulate the succession to zamindaris. The position of the cultivators in zamindari estates had not been clearly laid down under Act 8 of 1865. Generally the cultivators had occupancy rights and were bound to pay only rent to the land holder. Occupancy rights were, however, gradually trenched upon, and in some estates claims were set up inconsistent with such rights. Fresh legislation thus became necessary. An Act (the Estates Land Act) was passed in 1908 repealling the provisions of Act 8 of 1865 and laying down the substantive rights of the land-holders and the tenants, and the procedure to be adopted in the collection of rents. The land being permanently settled, that is to say, the land revenue on it being fixed for ever, extension of cultivation brings no increase of revenue to the State. The fact that the zamindar has to pay a permanently-fixed revenue does not exempt him from liability to general, local and municipal taxes.

Palayams or unsettled estates:- The Palayams for which no sanads have been granted are called unsettled palayams. The important difference between unsettled palayams and zamindaris is that in the case of the former the Government have the power to resume the grant at pleasure or to alter or revise the conditions on which it is held, as for example by revising the amount of revenue paid by the holder.

Ryotwari Tenure: The ryotwari system of holding under the Government has now been the principal tenure of this Presidency for over three-quarters of a century. The pattadar or registered holder of land under the ryotwari system is, as regards Government, the responsible proprietor of the land entered against his name in the land register of the village, until it passes from his possession by sale for arrears of revenue, or in some other legal manner. A registered pattadar may, so far as Government is concerned, alienate in any manner he pleases, the whole or portion of his holding, provided (i) that unless and until such alienation is registered in the village records, the alienor remains liable for the revenue and all other legal charges due on the land, just as it no such alienation had occurred, and (ii) that when the alienation is registered the alience takes the land subject to payment of any arrears of assessment or other legal charges due on it, and to the same obligation as those under which it was held by the alienor. If a registered pattadar improves his holding by constructing a tank on it, or digging a well, he is not chargeable with any additional assessment for such improvements but he is not

entitled to claim, as of right, any reduction of assessment on account of space occupied by the work. He is bound to pay the assessment fixed on his field or holding, whether cultivated, waste or fallow, in the prescribed instalments, unless it be remitted. The registered pattadar is entitled to work minerals on his land, but is liable to pay therefore a separate assessment in addition to the assessment above referred to which is for surface cultivation.

Ordinary Inam Tenures of Land.- When the State has given up is right to the land revenue, or a portion of it, in favour of an individual or an institution or to remunerate persons for performing certain duties the grant is termed an inam or manyam. In 1858 a Commission was established to examine the titles of the possessors of inams, and of the inams that were confirmed, to continue those that were still required for religious charitable or village service and to enfranchise those of other descriptions, if the possessors wished by commuting for a moderate quit rent the right of the Government to prevent alienation, to resume, or to demand service. Service inams are held revenue-free or subject to favourable rates. They cannot be alienated without forfeiture of the favourable tenure. The conditions of the grant must in each case be observed by the holder and the Government claim an absolute right to adjudicate as to the proper fulfilment of those conditions. In the case of village service inams, the holders are bound to

perform certain administrative duties, and are styled village officers, the succession to these inams is governed by a special enactment, and is hereditary in most districts. The inams attached to the more important village offices have, however, been enfranchised, and the village officers are now remunerated by money salaries.

Land held on Cowles etc. A cowle is a grant of land free of assessment for a certain period, or subject to favourable assessment gradually rising to full assessment. Until the full assessment is imposed, the holder is subject to the terms of the contract contain in the cowle. The cowle tenure is usually granted to induce ryots to bring under cultivation unpromising waste lands, or to plant trees or shrubs for green manure. Lands held under the tope rules are of the same nature, their object being to encourage tree planting. The terms of a cowle reserve to Government power of re-entry on breach of its conditions.

Mirasi Rights;- These rights are not sufficiently strong to be classed as tenures or rights against the Government, such as zamindari or ryotwari; but they are sometimes more than the mere preferential right to occupy new land, and they are recognised by the Government. The only trace that remains now of the special rights of the old communal oligarchies is the claim by certain hereditary mirasi-dars in Chinglepur district to fees upon land which may hereafter be brought under cultivation;

and upon lands now occupied which may hereafter be relinquished and again re-occupied. These fees were formerly taken from the gross produce before the division of the crop, and were then paid to the mirasi-dars both by the ryots and by the Government. They are now made payable entirely by the ryots, liberal allowance having been made for them in arriving at the rates of assessment charged on their lands. The fee payable by the ryot under these circumstance is a yearly sum of two annas in each rupee of the Government assessment, this amount being held to represent the old average rate of 3 per cent of the gross produce of the year. The right to collect these fees is recorded by the Government in the land revenue registers, but their collection is left to the mirasi-dars themselves. The total amount of these fees payable to mirasi-dars in Chingleput district is very small, but the right is tenaciously maintained, and represents what was in former days a highly important institution.

Unassigned Lands Unassigned land within a Government ryotwari village is either assessed or unassessed. The unassigned land of a village is at the disposal of the Government. Subject to the instructions of the Government officers, certain portions are reserved for the gratuitous communal use of the villages, as tanks, streets, channels, threshing-floor, burial-grounds, cattle-stands, etc., while in all villages, except on the West Coast,

..

a house-site and a backyard, with permission to cultivate garden produce in it free of all assessment, are provided gratuitiously for each family. The addition to, or subtraction from, the area of village-site is provided for by fixed rules. Unassessed waste lands of a village, which are not yet assigned, and are reserved for these or other special purposes, are available to ryots for cultivation.

Unassigned lands outside the recognised limits of any village are insignificant on the plains, which are fully occupied by the village communities, but they abound on the hill ranges where the indigenous tribes have established only a very partial occupation. Special rules have therefore been framed for the sale of waste lands on the Nilgiris (except in seven villages, six of which have been transferred from the Coimbatore district) on the Palnis outside the Kodaikanal Settlement in the Madura district, on the Shevaroy, Kollimalai and Yelagiri hills in the Salem district and on the Kollimalai in the Trichinopoly district. In the Nilgiris, excluding the Nilgiri-Wynaad, no assessment is charged till the sixth year on forest or grass land newly taken up under these rules and planted with coffee, tea, chinchona, rubber or other special products. Similar lands in the Nilgiri-Wynaad are allowed to be held free of assessment for three complete years.

Tenures other than those under the Government:-

In a ryotwari country the most important considerations connected with land tenures are those which concern the relations of the Government with persons holding immediately from it. The system of tenancy under such land-holders is, however, fully developed, registered ryots sub-letting their lands and living on the difference between the rents they obtain and the assessment they pay to the Government. In the districts on the East Coast, lands are generally rented out by the land-holders either for a fixed annual payment in money, or for a share in the produce. Ordinarily dry and garden lands are rented for money and irrigated lands for a share in the produce. In the case of permanently settled estates evert ryot in possession of ryoti land, not being old waste, is the owner of the occupancy right in the land in his holding.

Report on the Administration of Madras Presidency, 1911-12 pp. 55-59 & pp 73 to 85.

Antidote for Snake Bite and Dog Bite

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Research Assistant,
Tamil Nadu Archives, Madras-8

We read from reports in news papers and magazines how herbal preparations had been applied incuring diseases in the olden days. There was a serial published in a Tamil Magazine about the records preserved in a German Library of herbs used in India for such purposes. The records preserved in Tamil Nadu Archives also have some such reports, one of which is discussed here. This is about a pill used by a native of Tanjore to cure poisoning by snake bite and dog bite. The views of the Physician General are also reproduced here.

The name of the person was Samee-Vel. He was said to have, in his possession, a composition of snake pills and one which prevented any bad effects from the bite of a mad dog. The pills were stated to have been highly beneficial to many people who had been bit by snakes. Europeans and the natives of the district had taken the pills for the bite of mad doges and no one seemed to have got the hydrophobia or suffered any inconveniences from the bite.

An European who had been bitten by a mad dog was sent upto him. The medicine was given to the afflicted person in one Mr.Lavid's house and the expgriment proved a success. He was asked to make up both the medicines before the district officials there.[1]

The Governor of Madras was informed of Samee-Vel. The Governor directed the person to be sent to Madras. Samee-Vel arrived at Madras in September 1788 for having the merits of his discovery ascertained.

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1. Surgeon General's record Vol.No.3, dt.17th September 1798, p.176-183.

An agreement was made with Samee Vel that on his disclosure of the mode of procuring and preparing the medicines in the presence of the gentlemen appointed to superintendent his process, he was to receive a reward of 500 Pagodas. Samee-Vel disclosed the composition of the pills to the physician General and others.[2]

Pills for Snake bite:

The ingredients used in making the medicine for the cure of the venom of the snake bite were:

Velley Pashanam (வெள்ளை பாஷாணம்)
Velley Nave (வெள்ளை நாவி)
Nari Visham (நெரி விஷம்)
Milagu - Pepper (மிளகு)

The Kernal of a small fruit called Nare Walam (நெர்வாளம்) without its small shoot.

Rasam (ரசம்) Mercury.

For composing the medicine, the first four ingredients were taken and beaten into small powder separately. They were separately strained and an equal weight of each of the pulverised ingredients was taken and put in a vessel. An equal weight of the last two ingredients were taken and ground till the kernal of the small fruit became like paste. They were ground a second time with the milk of the shrub called welley Ereckkilen Shedi (வெள்ளை எருக்கஞ் செடி). Then all the ingredients were put together and ground with such a quantity of the above shrub as was found necessary. The paste so obtained was then made up into pills according to the size of a fruit called 'Tudu Shelangkai' and dried in the shade.

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2. Ibid p.171

Directions for giving the snake pills

When a person was bit by a 'Nalla Pambu' (Cobra) one of the pills was pulverised, mixed with a little cold or warm water and given to the patient. Another pulverised pill mixed with a little warm or cold water or the liver of a fowl was applied to the wound. Within a quarter of an hour or less than a quarter of an hour after the patient had taken the pill, the patient was watched as to whether the poison ceased to operate or not. If not, two more pills were given to the patient. If the patient was giddy, half a pill mixed with a few drops of water was applied to his eyes.

For the bite of all kinds of vipers (விரியன்) Valaney (வளனை), Sedamand Eli (சிதமண்டெலி) and Rattomand Eli (ரெத்தமண்டெலி) the patient was given two pills and half a pill or the liver of a fowl was applied to the wound. If the poison did not cease to operate within half an hour two more pills were given. If the patient was bit by the viper called Reta Viriyyan, which caused a flooding of blood at the mouth of the wound, the pills which he took internally with the juice of the bark of the tree Welamaram (வேலமரம்), was given to stop flooding of blood.

If the patient appeared almost dead without breath and any movement, two pills mixed with a little water or with the juice of the leaf of the "white Erukkilan Shrub" (வெள்ளை எருக்களஞ் செடி) was poured into his mouth and half a pill was applied to both his eyes. The hair on the crown of his head was shaved off, an incision made on his crown, some clay was put about the incision (to prevent the medicine to be applied on the head from running off) and a vessel made in the form of a tube of 4 inches length was fixed on the clay. About a table spoonful of the Welley leaf (வெள்ளை யிலை) and half 'stpag' weight of mercury

was poured into that vessel. A small earthern pot with some burning coals was placed on the tube till the medicine applied on the incision was heated.

The patient had to keep a strict regimen for six days by eating nothing but conjee and rice or milk and rice without salt. He should drink nothing but warm water. The rice which was prepared for the patient was boiled in a new pot without any salt. (It was stated that the rice should be one which was not boiled before, because the Malabar people generally boiled the rice first before they beat the paddy into rice).

If the pills operated by natural purging, the patient was allowed to eat a little conjee and rice or milk and rice. If a part of the pill was applied to the patient's. Eyes and he felt some inconvenience by it afterwards a little boiled rice tied in a cloth was applied to his eyes after dipping it in milk.

Medicine for the cure of the venom of mad dogs:-

For composing the medicine for the cure of the venom of mad dogs the following ingredients were taken.

"1st Fourt St.Pag. Weight the grinded leaves of the shrub Mada - Mathey (மத மத்தை)

2nd A quarter St.Pag. Weight of the grinded leaves of the shrub Kodaga Saley (கொடக சாலை)

3rd A quarter St.Pag weight of the grinded leaves of the shrub Kirikadi Marundu (கிறிகடி மருந்து)

or which is otherwise called Narataley Pundu (நாரதலை பூண்டு)

These three ingredients were mixed with 2St.Pag Weight of soft sugar and a quarter St.Pag. Weight of the

ashes of Tyger Skin and was given to the patient. If the leaves of the shrub Kodaga Saley and Nara Taley Pundu were not immediately available, the medicine was made up only with the 'grinded leaves of Madamathey (மத மத்தத) mixed with soft sugar and the ashes of tyger-skin and given to the patient. He was given the same quantity on the second and third day. The patient, upon takingthis medicine, would become quite intoxicated in a few hours. Three to four persons had, therefore, to keep a strict watch over him to prevent his eating or doing anything which was prejudicial to him. About three hours after taking the medicine the patient became excessively dry. The persons who took care of him were asked to make him drink the conjee of rice and green gram (பச்சை பயறு) boiled together in a new pot without any salt. Half an hour later he was allowed to drink a little conjee and eat the rice boiled with green gram. Whenever the patient found himself dry he was allowed to drink the conjee.

At five or six in the evening fifty or sixty large pots of cold water was poured on the head of the patient. He was allowed to eat rice boiled with green gram after which he was allowed to eat nothing till the next day, four or five hours after he took the medicine. He could drink only some thin conjee or warm water whenever he found himself dry. These prescriptions were strictly followed the second and the third day on which he was given the same quantity of the medicine that he took on the first day.

On the fourth and fifth day, the patient was to observe a strict regimen by eating nothing but rice boilded with green gram without salt and drink nothing but warm water and conjee of the boiled rice. On the sixth day he was permitted to bathe in cold or warm water "rubbing his head with those things he was used to do at bathing"

and after that he could eat and drink whatever he liked.[3]

The Physician General Dr.James Anderson, was asked by the Governor to make such trials and experiments to prove the reliance upon the discovery. A time andplace was to be appointed by the Physician General for the investigation and disclosure of his search.[4] Mr.Duffin, one of the Members of the Hospital Board assured the Hospital Board that Samee Vel had repeatedly exhibited the snake pill, as it was called, as an antidote in cases where persons were bite by serpents supposed to .. venomous as well as in cases where persons were bit by dogs, of which there were very satisfactory proof of madness, without perceiving any deleterious effects from the use of this medicine.[5]

Dr.James Anderson, the Physician General, entered the following minute on the subject:-

"Samoo-Vel of Tanjore says the receipts of his pills are taken from the Chittera Rudum Shaster of the Pandarum, and that the pills for the bite of a mad dog consists of the following articles.

Madamatte, Cadaga Saley and Sadachi, the first of which Madamatti is the Woomati of the Tamule Thimatu of the Hortus Malabaricus Datura, Metel of Limous or Thorn apple.

"It is powerfully narcotic. The green leaves of the plant are commonly rubbed on the inside of the still, and Rolls for Toddy, to render these spirituous liquors more intoxicating and the seeds of one apple are sufficient for those who perpetrate selfmurder too frequently the consequence of family dissentions here to induce immediate applixy and death in five or six hours.

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3. Ibid p.176-183
4. Ibid p.171.
5. Ibid p.185-186.

"Codaga-Saley of this receipt is likewise codaga-Saley of the Tamuls and is of the class Diandrica Mono Gynea of Linneaeus and appears to be a new specie of Justicia.

The third and last ingredient of these pills he calls Sadachi which is said to be the Neri Tali Poondoo or Keri Kadi Marundoo of the Tamils which they understand to be the medicine of the Mangoose but the specimen furnished me being withered and dry I have been unable to compare it with the description of the Ophyrriza by Linnous but the Codaga Saley and Sadachi being merely esculent plants, leaves the Medical qualities of the pills to the virtues of Datura.

"I come now to consider the receipt of his pills for the bite of serpents consisting of six articles viz., Velley Pashanam, Velley Nari, Nari Visham, Milagu, Ner Valum and Rasam.

"The Velley Pashanam is ponderous, glossy and white and exposed on live coals or red hot iron is entirely dissipated in white fumes of a garlic smell from which characters, no doubt can exist that it is sublimated arsenic - the noxious qualities of which substance being fully known by many fatal accounts it is needless for me to say more than merely to observe the use of it is restrained by law in Great Britain and the sale limited in a similar manner by the different governments in this peninsula.

"I understand it is brought to this country from Pegu and think it probably a product of the silver mines of Ava".

"The velley nari and Nari Visham are exotic dry roots of which samoo vell can give no account.

Milagu is, Malaga Codi of the Hortus Malabarious of class Diandria Trigyria of Linnous or black pepper

The Ner Valum is the Kennel of an exotic fruit.

The Rasam is quick silver

" I must here beg leave to observe that the small quantity of vegetable matter contained in these pills can have little effect on the arsenic and the quick silver none at all in the way of humid digestion that may exist in the stomach. A subliming heat in close vessels being necessary for their union.

"Two thirds of our snakes are not venomous and if these pills are administered to all that are bit, these persons must run the risk of their lives under the idea of saving one by a dose of arsenic.

" If the part is cut out within a quarter of an hour after the bite of a most venomous snake, no ill consequence ensues; and where that has been neglected, and giddiness the first morbid symptom occurred, the life of the patient has been saved by supportingthe vis v[illegible] with wine and opium.

"It has been alleged that these pills have been given with great success in the bite of mad dogs, and that those who took the pills escaped while those who did not died rapid, but such arguments are not conclusive, for it is well known a deposition must exist in the body to receive an infection, otherwise none could escape the plague or small pox when the misma of the diseases prevail and likewise the bite of the same dog may not instill an equal quantity of venom into all whom he wounds.

"When I declare as I surely do that I have been 26 years in the constant and very extensive practice of physics in India without ever having it in my powers to see a person afflicted with canine madness and am credibly informed the exhibition of the snakepill as it is called, has been attended with such burning pain of the stomach and bowels, violent vomiting, purgingand death in some cases as might be expected from the arsenic it contains.

I hope it will appear I have said enough to the brute creation for the destruction of dogs that are mad, wishing as I do to expel for the sake of humanity such noxious drugs from our Materia Medica.[6]

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6. Ibid p.226-231

As they were unacquainted with some of the component parts of these medicines which were in a state in which it was difficult to analyse, the Hospital Board recommended to the Government to leave every practitioner to administer remedies as his own judgement might direct in cases of venomous bites.[7]

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7. Ibid 185-186

LIST OF TOPICS IN WHICH RESEARCH WAS CARRIED ON IN TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES DURING JULY - SEPTEMBER 1993

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Name of the Scholar (1)		Subject (2)	Period (3)
Thiru.David hudden		"Agrarian History Tamil Nadu 1750 - 1900	2nd July 1993 to 1st July 1994.
Thiru.V.Venkata-Krishnan	Ph.D	Panchayat Raj System in Tamil Nadu. 1882-1962	9th July 1993 to 8th July 1994
Thiru.T.V.Venkates-waran		History of Science and Technology (1870-1950)	8th July 1993 to 7th July 1994.
A. Agnes	M.phil	History of Montfort Brothers (with Spl.reference to Tamilnadu) 1900-1962	9th July 1993 to 8th July 1994.
Thiru,K.Ramesh	Ph.d	The left move-ment in Andhra (1934-1956)	9th July 1993 to 8th July 1994.
Thiru.K.Ganesan	Educa-tional	The Development of Libraries in Social and Religious Insti-tutions.	9th July 1993 to 8th July 1994.
Thiru.D.Jayavelu	M.Phil	Freedom fighters of Salem District (1880 to 1947)	9th July 1993 to 8th July 1994.

(1)		(2)	(3)
Thiru.Murugiah	Ph.d	Christian Education in Tamilnadu 1947-1960	9th July 1993 to 8th July 1994.
Thiru.A.Xavier Raj	Project work	Plantation labour and Fishing communitied and Trading routes (1600 to 1962)	29th June 1993 to 28th June 1994.
Thiru.R.S.Vasudevan *(post doctoral & Publication)	*	Indian Film and Media History (1895-1960)	14th July 1993 to 13th July 1994
Thiru.N.Perumallu	M.phil	Land Revenue Tenure is in Kalakashi Zamindari (1802-1908)	14th July 1993 to 13th July 1994.
Thiru.K.Jayaraman,	Ph.d	Social Welfare Administration	23rd July 1993 to 7th August 1993.
Thiru.N.Mohamed Hussain	Ph.d	Padmanabhapuram through the Ages (1800-1962)	14th July 1993 to 13th July 1994
Thiru.Randor Guy *to write a book	*	Film and Legal History (1600-1960)	12th July 1993 to 11th July 1994.
" N.Murukesan Nair *to prepare a police history museum	*	To collect the maimes of the Superintendents of Police of the Malabar District for the period from 1800 onwards	12th July 1993 to 11th July 1994.

(1)		(2)	(3)
Tmt.V.Jalaja Sakthidasan	Publi-cation	100 years of struggle of 'amalai kallar	16th July 1993 to 15th July 1994.
Dr.K.Jayaraj Pandian	To Publish a book	History of Madras (1800 - 1962)	21st July 1993 to 20th July 1994.
Sheela Menon	Ph.d	History of Nair Brigade in Trevancore (1600-1940)	23rd July 1993 to 22nd July 1994
Dr.John J.Paul	Mono-graph	Development of Modern Medical Profession in Colonial South India" (1800 - 1947)	7th July 1993 to 6th July 1994
Tmt. Sumathi Ramaswamy	Publica-tion	"Making the past perfect Litera-ture, Language and Historical Consciousness"	21st July 1993 to 20th July 1994
Thiru.C.Srini-vasa Reddy	Ph.d	"Factories and Forts in India A study of the English settle-ment pattern on the coro-mandel. (1650-1720)	21st July 1993 to 20th July 1994.
R.Bhuvaneswari	Ph.d	"The Early English Press of Madras Presidency" (1785-1885)	24th June 1993 to 23rd June 1994.

(1)		(2)	(3)
Thiru.M.Epirajan	M.Phil	History of South India (1800-1990 AD)	26th July 1993 to 9th August 1993
" P. Saravanan	Ph.d	"Legislative Council of Tamilnadu (1937-1986)	28th July 1993 to 27th July 1994
" Maj.P.K.Dasan	To collect informa-tion	Unit History (Madras Regiment) (1900-1947)	29th July 1993.
" Haruka Yanagisawa	For publi-ca-tion	Socio Cultural changes in villages in Tiruchirappalli District (1800-1950)	3rd August 1993 to 2nd August 1994.
" Nasir Tyabji	Project Eork	"Industrial Deve-lopment with special reference to Engineering Industry, Growth of working class and Trade Unions" (1880-1962)	2nd July 1993 to 1st July 1994
" G. Anantha krishnan	Parttime Ph.d	Office of the Mayonality in Madras(till 1963)	2nd August 1993 to 1st August 1994.
"Dr.G.Satya-narayana Rao	Preparing a Mono-graph	The Local History of Zamindars of Nuzvid	2nd August 1993 to 1st August 1994
Tmt.C.Amirtha Jothi	Ph.d	"History Women's Education in Madras Presidency (1800-1947)	23rd July 1993 to 22nd July 1994.

(1)		(2)	(3)
Dr.David Morse	Post Doctoral	"Institutions of tank Irrigation" 1670-1962	3rd August 1993 to 2nd August 1994
Thiru.M.Purushotham	M.phil	The Financial problems of Paligars in Chittoor Palems (1823-1825)	5th August 1993 to 4th August 1994.
" T. Sreenivasa Rao	"	A History of Karvdinagaram 1792-1857	5th August 1993 to 4th August 1994
" K. Mariappan	Ph.d	History of Education in Tamilnadu with Special reference to Salem District	20th August 1993 to 19th August 1994
" K.Lourdhanathan	Official data collection	To collect the data regarding damages caused due to Cyclone/Storms/Floods in the Coastal villages of Tamil Nadu in connection with the preparation of Anti-disaster Plan for the Districts of Tamil Nadu.	5th August 1993 to 12th August 1993
Dr.Janaki Nair	Post Doctoral	"Law Reform in Mysore" 1890-1945	4th August 1993 to 10th August 1993.

(1)		(2)	(3)
Selvi.R.Radhai	Ph.D	"Economics status of Hindu Women" 1670-1962	17th August 1993 to 16th August 1994
Tmt.A.V.Lakshmi	M.phil	"Position of Brahmin Women of Mylapore" 1800-1962	12th August 1993 to 11th August 1994.
Tmt.K.Bhanumathy	Ph.d	"Hanuman worship	17th August 1993 to 31st August 1993
Thiru.P.Venkateshwara Rao	Publish a book	"A study of casts and Tribes in Southern India" 1900-1957	16th August 1993 to 15th August 1994
Dr.V.Jayaraj	Official Research	To bring out the technology of coin making and catalogue of coins of Nawabs(from 16th century onwards)	28th August 1993 to 27th August 1994.
Thiru.T.L.Shaji	B.Arch.	Technology for conservation of Historic buildings. (18th century)	30th August 1993 to 13th August 1993.

(1)		(2)	(3)
Selvi.Lakshmi, L.R.S.	Ph.d	Social organisation and cultural Trends among the Mappila 1870 to 1940	30th August 1993 to 13th September 1993
Dr.Chummar Choondal	Research Project	Kerala studies in General	30th August 1993 to 13th September 1993
Thiru.S.Mani	Ph.D	"P.Jeevanandam- A study in profile 1930-1962	19th August 1993 to 18th August 1994
Tmt.G.Lalitha kumari Amma	M.Phil.	K.P.Kesava Menon A study	6th September 1993 to 20th September 1993
Thiru.V.Pandian	"	History of Education in Phuvanagiri Area, since 1947- some aspects	8th September 1993 to 7th September 1994
Selvi.T.Padmaja Rani	Ph.d	Revenue Administration in Anantapur District 1800-1930"	9th September 1993 to 8th September 1994

(1)		(2)	(3)
Thiru.V.Saravanan	Ph.D	Economic Transformation of Tribals in Tamilnadu since the colonial Rule-1792-1991	9th September 1993 to 8th September 1994
" Mohammed Mustafa	"	British Policy Towards Inams Settlement in Madras Presidency 1800-1870	"
Selvi.K.Sumathy	M.Phil	Social Security scemes in Tamil nadu	10th September 1993 to 9th September 1994
Selvi.T.Mythili Devi	"	Setlement of Sriperampudur-A tudy 180-1962	"
[illegible].ChandraBanu	"	Kanchi Kamakoti Mutt A Study 700 - 1962	"
Miss.Renuka.J	"	Growth of Social Legislation since Independence" 1947-1962	14th September 1993 to 13th September 1994
Thiru.P.Danial Jeyaraj	Doctoral degree	Relationship between Halle in Germany and Tamilnadu 1706-1800 AD	13th September 1993 to 12th September 1994.

(1)		(2)	(3)
Tmt.K.Kamala Devi	M.Phil	"Salt Administration in Madras Presidency" 1799-1855	6th September 1993 to 5th September 1994
Thiru.R.N. Varma	Ph.d	Political change & Social stability in Tanjore under the Marathas 1684-1856 AD	13th September 1993 to 12th September 1994
Dr.S.M.Kamal	To write a book	To bring out the details of Liberation Movements" (1650-1850)	14th September 1993 to 13th September 1994.
Thiru.Rajiba Panda	Ph.d	Socio-Cultural life in Ghumsur during 18th Century	15th September 1993 to 14th September 1994.
Thiru.K.Venkateswaralu	M.Phil	History - Early 17th century to 1857 during East India company's rule"	"
" D.Kamalakannan	Ph.d	History of Education in Tamilnadu 1800-1962	"
Selvi.D.Glory	M.Phil	Inter-Caste Marriage in Tamilnadu 1700-1962	"

(1)		(2)	(3)
Thiru.M.Gandhi	Ph.d	Historical Survey of Ex-Criminal Tribes Settlements in A.P 1919-1990	14th September 1993 to 28th September 1993.
Selvi.L.Saroja	M.Phil	Uthamapalayam Taluk in Indian freedom struggle 1800-1947	17th September 1993 to 16th September 1994.
Thiru.M.J. Martinkennedy	"	History of St. Mary Anglo-Indian Hr.Sec. School 1839-1962	17th September 1993 to 16th September 1994
" P.S.Mani	To write a book	(1883 - 1947)	20th September 1993 to 19th September 1994.
"P.Anbumani	M.Phil	Industrial Development of Arkonam (between 1972-1992)	20th September 1993 to 4th October 1993
"J.Rajamohamed	Ph.d	Mari Time Activities of Marakkayars of Coromandel Coast (1740-1900)	21st September 1993 to 20th September 1994
"S.Krishnasamy	"	Biographics and Autobiographics as sources for the 20th century [illegible]story of Tamil [illegible]du. (1900 - 1962)	22nd September 1993 to 21st September 1994.

(1)		(2)	(3)
Thiru.A.Bollam Raju	Ph.d	History of Godavari and Krishna Irrigation Project and Heir contribution to Andhra	24th September 1993 to 23rd September 1994
Selvi.Viguier Anne	"	Urban History in Tamilnadu during XIX century. (1780-1930)	22nd September 1993 to 21st September 1994.
" M.Ezhilpavai	M.Phil	Women's Welfare Schemes under D.M.K.Rule (1989-1991)	22nd September 1993 to 6th October 1993
Thiru.M.Balakrishnan	Ph.d	"The History of Sivaganga 1674 - 1962 "	23rd September 1993 to 22nd September 1994.
Thiru.G.Venkateswaralu	M.Phil	"The Famines in Anantapur District during Company's Rule	23rd September 1993 to 22nd September 1994.
Tmt.B.Sugumabai	Ph.d	History of private education in Tamilnadu (1854-1962)	23rd September 1993 to 22nd September 1994

(1)		(2)	(3)
Ms. Deborah L. Wall Dock	Ph.D	"Saiva Hymns : Text Interpretation & Modern usuage" 1600 - 1962	23rd September 1993 to 22nd September 1994.
Tmt. Ashalatha Augustine	Ph.d	Status of Christian Women in Tamil nadu. (1900 - 1962)	30th September 1993 to 29th September 1994.
Tmt. M. Thilakavathy	"	Textile Industry in Tamilnadu 1950 - 1962	30th September 1993 to 29th September 1994.

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List of Books received during 1.7.93 to 30.9.93

Sl.No.	Author	Title
1.	Co-operation Dept, Tamil Nadu.	: Administration report for the year 1984-85
2.	N.Swaminathan	: Economic development and fertility change.
3.	Government of Tamil Nadu	: Tamil Nadu Budget Manual Volume 1992
4.	Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Tamil Nadu	: Committee on Public Accounts 1991-92 : Reports.
5.	- do -	: 1992-93 : Reports.
6.	British Records Association, London	: Archives. Volume 20. No.88 October 1992
7.	Anna University Madras.	: 13th Annual Report 1991-92.
8.	மு. இளங்கோவன்	: அச்சக ஆற்றுப்படை
9.	M.Sundararaj	: Prostitution in Madras.
10.	பு. இராசதுரை	: சுயமரியாதை இயக்கத்திற்கு நாடார்கள் ஆற்றிய தொண்டு
11.	தொல்பொருள் ஆய்வுத்துறை தமிழ்நாடு அரசு	: நன்னிலம் கல்வெட்டுகள்
12.	- do -	: குடந்தை கல்வெட்டுகள்

Sl.No.	Author	Title
13.	தொல்பொருள் ஆய்வுத் துறை, தமிழ்நாடு அரசு	திருக்கோட்டிகா கல்வெட்டுகள்
14.	-"-	தக்கை ராமாயணம்
15.	- "-	தமிழக வரலாற்றுச் சின்னங்கள்
16.	-"-	ஆர்க்காடும் அகழ்வைப்பகமும்
17.	-"-	இராமலிங்கவிலாசம் இராமாயண ஓவியக்குறிப்புகள்
18.	-"-	கும்பகோணமும் மகா மகப்பெருவிழாவும்
19.	-"-	கருவூரும் அகழ்வைப்பகமும்
20.	- "-	தருமபுரி கல்வெட்டுகள்.
21.	- "-	திருத்துறைப் பூண்டி கல்வெட்டுகள்
22.	-" -	அரசினர் கீழ்த்திசைச் சுவடிகள் நூலகத் தமிழ்ச் சுவடிகள் விவர அட்டவணை
23.	- do -	Seminar on Marial Archaeology
24.	- " -	Alagankulam : A Preliminary report
25,	- " -	Metropolis of Medieval Cholas
26.	- " -	Art Panorama of Tamils
27.	- " -	செங்கம் நடுகற்கள்

Sl.No.	Author	Title
28.	Dirks (Nicholas B)	: The Hollow crown: Ethnography of an Indian Kingdom
29.	Dept. of Statistics	: Abstracts of statistics for Tamil Nadu 1989,1990, 1991.
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32.	Govt. of Tamil Nadu	: Tamil Nadu Travelling allowance rules : 1993.
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38.	N.K.Meera	: Gandhian ideology, Swadeshi and the Handloom weaver in Andhra 1914-1945(Thesis)
39.	V.D.Divekar	: South India in 1857: Won of Independence.
40.	National Archives of India	: Guide to the Records in the National Arrchives of India Part X.

தமிழ்ப் பகுதி.

தரங்கம்பாடி ஓலை ஆவணங்கள்

(எஸ். இராமச்சந்திரன், காப்பாட்சியர், தஞ்சாவூர்)

கி.பி. 1979 ஆம் ஆண்டில், தரங்கம்பாடி (நாகை காயிதே மில்லத் மாவட்டம்) டேனிஷ்கோட்டை அகழ்வைப்பகத்திற்காக அவ்வூரின் சுற்றுப்புறச் சிற்றூர்களான சாத்தங்குடி, காட்டுச்சேரி முதலிய ஊர்களிலிருந்த, பட்டாமணியம் பதவி வகித்தோரிடமிருந்து சேகரிக்கப்பட்ட பல ஓலை ஆவணங்களில், 9 ஆவணங்களின் வாசகங்கள் இக்கட்டுரையில் தரப்படுகின்றன.

கி.பி. 1845 ஆம் ஆண்டுவரை, தரங்கம்பாடி டென்மார்க் அரசரின் பிரதிநிதியாக இருந்த கவர்னரின் ஆளுகையிலிருந்தது. டென்மார்க் கவர்னரின் நிர்வாகத்திலும், பின்னர் ஆங்கிலேயக் கிழக்கிந்தியக் கம்பெனி, பிரிட்டிஷ் அரசு ஆகியவற்றின் நிர்வாகத்திலும் தரங்கம்பாடி இருந்தபோது, இப்பகுதியில் வணிகர்களாகவும் நிலவுடைமையாளர்களாகவும் இருந்த சேனைக்குடையார்* என அழைக்கப்பட்ட இலைவாணிகர் குலத்தைச் சேர்ந்த சிலர், பண்ணையாளாகத் தம்மை ஒற்றி வைத்துக்கொண்டும், ஒப்பந்தக்கூலிகளாக விற்றுக்கொண்டும் இருந்துள்ளனர். இத்தகைய சமூக நிலைமையை அறிவதற்கு இச்சுவடிகள் துணை புரிகின்றன. எனவே இச்சுவடிகளை டேனிஷ்கோட்டை அகழ்வைப்பகத்திற்கு அன்பளிப்பாக வழங்கிய சாத்தங்குடி திரு கோவிந்தசாமி செட்டியார், காட்டுச்சேரி இராஜகோபால் செட்டியார் ஆகியோர் நமது நன்றிக்குரியோராவார்.

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* தற்போது "சேனைத்தலைவர்" என வழங்கப்படுகிறது.

இந்நூற்றாண்டின் தொடக்கத்தில் மகாத்மா காந்தியடிகளுடன் சேர்ந்து நேட்டாலில் தோட்டத் தொழிலாளர் உரிமைக்காகப் போராடி மாண்ட தில்லையாடி வள்ளியம்மை காட்டுச்சேரிக்கு 2 கி.மீ. தொலைவிலுள்ள தில்லையாடி என்ற ஊரைச் சேர்ந்தவர் என்பதும், ஒப்பந்தக் கூலியாகவே தென்னாப்பிரிக்காவுக்குக் கப்பலில் அனுப்பப்பட்டவர் என்பதும் சிந்திக்க வேண்டியவையாகும். தில்லையாடி வள்ளியம்மையின் தந்தையார், புதுச்சேரி முதலியார் எனக் குறிப்பிடப்பட்டதாக ஒரு செய்தி உண்டு. சேனைக்குடையார் குலத்தவர்கள் தரங்கம்பாடிப் பகுதியில் செட்டியார் என்ற பட்டம் புனைந்து கொண்டாலும், வடஆர்க்காடு மாவட்டத்தில் முதலியார் என்றே பட்டம் புனைந்து கொள்கின்றனர். எனவே, தில்லையாடி வள்ளியம்மை பற்றிய தெளிவான வரலாற்று ஆதாரங்களைத் தேடி அறிவதற்கு, இவ்வோலைச் சுவடிகள் பற்றிய ஆய்வு ஒரு தூண்டுதலாக இருக்கும் என நம்பலாம்.

ஏடுகளுக்குத் தரப்பட்டுள்ள வகை வரிசை எண்கள் தரங்கம்பாடி டேனிஷ் கோட்டை அகழ்வைப்பக அரும்பொருள் வரிசையில் Palm Leaf Documents என்பதன் சுருக்கமான P.L.D. என்ற எழுத்துக்களால் குறிப்பிடப்படுகின்றன.

ஏடு. 1 P.L.D. 53a /79

பக்கம் 1) வரி 1) ஸ்ரீஜய வரு ஆனி மீ 2 (1)
ராச மானிய ராசஸ்ரீ பிறெஞ்சு பெருங் கும்பனீ (2)
துரையவர்கள் கட்டளைப் படிக்கி நரங்கம்பாடி அதூர்ச்

வரி 2) கச்சேரி. பிறைஸ்தோர் வேதமுத்து பிள்ளையாகிய
மன் நயிட்டேடர் சாமிநாதனுக்கு எழுதிக் கொடுத்த
கபிலேவாலை. (3) என்ன

வரி 3) வெள்ளால் பிறையாத்தில் கொதண்டராயனுடை (4)
பூ நிலத்துக்கு கிழக்கு மு பிள்ளை (5) நிலத்துக்கும் மு
முயனார் (6) நிலத்துக்கும் 4894

வரி 4) வடக்கு உப்பளாத்துக்குத் தெற்கு சின்னான் நிலத்துக்கும்
கழுவடி மேட்டுக்கும் மேற்கு நான்கெல்லைக்குள்பட்ட

வரி 5) தரிசு நிலம் அனந்த கண்டத்து குழி உருக்கு (7)
ஆந்த ரெண்டாயிரத்தி ஒருநூத்தி நாற்பத்தஞ்சு குழி நிலமு..

வரி 6) அளமும் மேடும் பள்ளமுமாயிருக்குறதையும் வெட்டித்
திருத்தி செய்கிறதுக்கு அதிகப் பணம் சிலவு பண் . . .

வரி 7) வெண்டி இருப்பதைப் பற்றி ஸ்ரீஜய வருஷ சித்திரை மீ
உயந உ (8) மகாராச ... யறைமேத்திலிருந்து (9)

பக்கம் 2) வரி 1) லாகச் சொல்லப்பட்ட தொரையவர்களுக்கு
வந்திருக்குற கட்டளையைக் கொண்டு பத்து வருஷத்துக்கு
சவை ம .. (19)

வரி 2) ஆனபடியினாலே கொள்ளவும் அப்புறம்-ம-க்கு எழுது
படிவாரம் (11) பத்திக் கொள்ளவும் சொல்லப்பட்ட நிலத்தை
ஆரு

வரி 3 -- வருஷத்தில் செய் பண்ணி (12) பண்ணுகிறது.
அப்படிச் செய்யாவிட்டால் வேற நிலம் மகாராசாவைச் சேர்

வரி_4) இந்த பிறகு மன்னராகுந்தவருக்குப் பொருந்த விடப்படும் மேற்படி அதிகப் பெயராக சொல்லப்பட்ட துரையவர்கள்

வரி_5)

முத்திரை இடமும்(13) தம்முடைய கை ஒப்பமும்(14) வைத்து முடிக்கும் பட்டயம் செய்யப்பதிலிகம் கொடுத்தது.

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அடிக்குறிப்புகள்:

1) கி.பி.1822 ம் வருடம் ஆனி மாதம் 9 ஆம் தேதி- ஆனி மாதம் 9 ஆம் தேதி என்பது மே மாதம் 9 ஆம் தேதிக்குச் சமமாகக் கருதப்பட்டுள்ளதைத் தெரிகிறது.

2) ராச மான்ய ராசஸ்ரீ, "கொம்பனிப்பாத்" பதவி வகிக்கும், கோபோத் துரையவர்கள். கோபோத் (Koefoed) என்பது டேனிஷ் மொழியில் "Cowfoot" எனப் பொருள்படும் ஒரு குடும்பப் பெயர்.

3) கவுல் (ஒப்பந்த) ஓலை

4) கோதண்டராமநாயக்கர்

5) ராமலிங்கம்

6) நாராயண நாயக்கர்

7) பசலி 2245

8) கி.பி.1822 ஆம் வருடம் சித்திரை மாதம் 23 ஆம் தேதி

9) "மகாராச கவர்னர் மெஸ்ஸ்" எனப் பொருள்படும். டேனிஷ் கவர்னர் பதவி இவ்வாறு குறிப்பிடப்பட்டது.

10) "சர்வ மான்யம்" என்றிருந்திருக்கக்கூடும். சுவடியில் மூலம் பழுதடைந்துள்ளது.

11) 100-க்கு 75 முடிவாரம்

12) செய்நேர்த்தி. இச்சொல் "செந்தி" எனவும் வழங்கும்.

13) "I. Koefoed" என்ற முத்திரை சுவடியின் இடப்பக்க ஓரத்தில் உள்ளது.

14) "சிரஸ்தேதார் வெங்கட்டு" என்ற கையொப்பமும் முதற்பக்க ஓரத்தில் உள்ளது.

ஏடு.2 - P.L.D. 136/79

பக்கம் 1) வரி 1) [illegible] ஆவணி மீ ௫உ (1) காட்டுச் சேரியிலிருக்கும் ராமநாத செட்டிக்கு இடைத் திருக்களாச் சேரியிலிருக்கும் முட்டை முழுங்கி பேத்தி ஈசுவர ... (2)

வரி 2) எழுதிக் கொடுத்த அடைமச் சீட்டு (3) என்ன வென்றால் என் தழ்விடத்தில் (4) சில குழி வைப்பாட்டியாயிருந்த படியாலே இப்ப எனக்கும் தமக்கும் ஒத்துக் கொள். . . .

வரி 3) லே என் மனுஷியாக சாக்ஷிகள் முன்பாக என் தந்து தெருக்கும் வாங்கிக் கொண்டது கும்பினி ரூ-யரு (5) -ம் சேலை விலக்கி ரூ.2 (6) ம் ஆக ரூபாய் பதி ..... (7)

வரி 4) க்கும் பற்றிக்கொண்டு நான் விலகிப் போற படியினாலே இனிமேல் தமக்கும் எனக்கும் யாதொரு வியாச்சியமும் சம்பந்தமும் (8) இல்லையென்று . .

பக்கம் 2) வரி 1) இந்த அடைமச் சீட்டில் சாக்ஷிகள் முன்பாக என் மனுஷியாக என் கையெழுத்து வைத்துக் கொடுத்தேன் . . . அறிவேன் அப்பு வீரப்பன் அறிவேன் (9)

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அடிக்குறிப்பு:

1) கி.பி. 1836 ஆம் ஆண்டு ஆவணி மாதம் 5 ஆம் தேதி (ஆவணி என்பது ஆகஸ்டு மாதத்துக்குச் சரிசமமாக கூறப்பட்டுள்ளது)

2) ஓலைச்சுவடியின் ஓரம் சிதைந்துள்ளதாதலால் எழுத்துகள் படிக்க இயலாத நிலையில் உள்ளன.

3) "முட்டைமுழுங்கி" என்ற பெண்மணியின் பேர்த்தி ஈசுவர (அம்முணி) என்பவர், ராமநாத செட்டி என்பவருடன் கொண்டிருந்த வைப்பாட்டி பந்தத்தை அறுத்துக்கொண்டு, அந்த உறவு உரிமையை, உடையவர்வசமே (ராமநாத செட்டி வசமே) விட்டுவிட்டதைக் குறிக்கும் தொடராச் சீட்டு இது. "முட்டை முழுங்கி" என்ற பெயரும், தந்தை, தாய் முதலிய விவரங்கள் கூறப்படாததும் கவனிக்கத் தக்கவை.

4) "தங்களிடத்தில்" என்ற பொருளில் மரியாதையின் நிமித்தமாகப் படர்க்கையில் கூறுதல்.

5) மும்பின் ரூபாய் 15.

6) சேலை விலைக்கு ரூபாய் 2

7) "ரூபாய். பதினேழு" என இருக்க வேண்டும்.

8) "சொந்தமும்" எனப் பொருள்படும்.

9) அப்பு என்பவர், இந்தச் சுவடியை எழுதியதோடு சாட்சிக் கையொப்பமும் இட்டுள்ளார். சுவடியின் முதற்பக்க ஓரத்தில், " — யிந்த கீறல் அம்மணி கையெழுத்து" என எழுதப்பட்டுள்ளது. ஈசுவர அம்மணி கல்வியறிவு அற்றவராதலால் அப்பு அவரிடம் இச்சுவடி வாசகங்களைப் படித்துக் காட்டி, ஒப்புதல் பெற்றதற்கு அடையாளமாகக் கைக்குறல் பெற்று, அதனைச் சுவடியில் குறித்துள்ளார்.

ஏடு-3 P.L.D. 69/79

பக்கம் 1) வரி 1) ஞ அருசாடு ஆகஸ்டு மீ யங உ [1] தயங்கப்பாடி [2] தாலுக்கா சாத்தங்குடியிலிருக்கும் ஞ.மு. அப்பாச்

வரி 2) சாமி செட்டியாரவர்களுக்கு ஷை தாலுக்காக யெருக்கிட்டாஞ்சேரி வெட்டியார்ப் பறச் சேரியிலிருக்கு

வரி 3) ம் வெட்டியார் சின்னப்பன் யெழுதிக் கொடுத்த ஆள் ஓத்திச் சீட்டு [3] யென்னவென்றால் யென்மகன்

வரி 4) மாணிக்கத்தைத் தங்களிடத்தில் மாடு மேய்க்க விட்டு மாசம் கஅ சம்பளம் ரூ ருஅ [4] களம் வயலில் அரை

வரி 5) ப்பங்கும் பத்திக்கொண்டு யாதொரு தவக்கமில்லாமல் மாடு மேய்த்த வருகிறது இதற்கு முதற் கடமு

வரி 6) க நாள் தங்களிடத்தில் பத்திக் கொண்டது ரு-ரூ-உ [5] யிந்த ரூபாய் ரெண்டும் முன் ரொக்கம் பத்திக் கொ

பக்கம் 2) வரி 1) ண்ட படியால் சொல்லப்பட்ட ரூபாய் ரெண்டையும் யென் மகன் சம்பளத்தில் தள்ளி விடுவேனாகவும்

வரி 2) யென் மகன் மாடு மேய்க்கத் தவக்கப் படுத்தினாலும் மகந்தப்பிப் போனாலும் நானே பாத்தியப்பட்டு

வரி 3) தங்களுக்கு சமுசா சொல்லச் சம்மதிச்சு சாட்சிகள் மூலக்கு யிதிலென் கையெ

வரி 4) முத்து வைத்துக் கொடுத்தேன் மநட்டெழுத்து உள்பட வெ. கந்தசாமி வாத்தி அறிவேன் [6]

வரி 5) அ. வெங்கிடசாமி அறிவேன்

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அடிக்குறிப்புகள்:

1) கி.பி.1856 ஆம் வருடம் ஆகஸ்ற் மாதம் 13 ஆம் தேதி

2) "தரங்கம்பாடி" என்பதன் பேச்சு வழக்கு

3) வெட்டியார் சின்னப்பன் என்பவர், மகன் மாணிக்கத்தை, நிலச்சுவான்தார் மு. அப்பாசாமிச் செட்டியாரிடத்தில் மாடு மேய்த்தற்காக [illegible] வைத்துக் கடன் பெறுவதற்காக [illegible]. இச்சுவடியின் மேற் பக்க ஓரத்தில் "இந்த ----- கை கீறல் சின்னப்பன் கை கீறல் ---- உ" என்று எழுதப்பட்டுள்ளது. இது, ஓலைச்சுவடியை எழுதியவர், வெட்டியார் சின்னப்பன் கல்வியறிவு பெறாதவராதலால் அவரிடம் சுவடி வாசகங்களைப் படித்துக்காட்டி, அவரது கைக்கீறலை அடையாளமாகப் பெற்ற குறிப்பாகும்.

4) "மாதம் 1க்கு சம்பளம் ரூபாய் நாலு."

5) (சும்பிர் ரூபாய் 2

6) வெ. கந்தசாமி என்ற வாத்தி (பள்ளி ஆசிரியர்), இச்சுவடியை எழுதியதோடு சாட்சிக் கையொப்பமும் இட்டுள்ளார்.

ஏடு - 4 - P.L.D. 70/79

பக்கம் 1) வரி 1) குஅளமுயன உ கூ் மீ யக உ(1)
தரங்கம்பாடி தாலுக்கா சாத்தங்குடி கிராமத்திலிருக்கும்
செட்டியார் அவர்கள் மு. மு. மு. அப்பாசாமி செட்டியார் . . . . (2)

வரி 2) மை தாலுக்கா சாலை முகமங்கலம் கிராமத்தில்-
குத்தாலம் தாலுக்கா சாயபுரம் கிராமத்திலிருந்து
வந்திருக்கும் கூத்தன் சாம்பான் மகன் ரா. . . . .

வரி 3) சொமத்த பண்ணை ஊள் முத்தி கடன் சீட்டு(3) யென்ன
வென்றால் தங்களுடைய பண்ணையில் ரெண்டு சாகுபடி வேலை
செயிது வருகிறதாக ஒப்ப . . .

வரி 4 - விடத்தில் முன் கடனாக ரொக்கம் பத்திக்கொண்டப்
படியால் தங்களுடைய பண் . . .

வரி 5) - யென் யெந்த வேலைகளும் யாதொருக் குந்தக்க
மில்லி . . . . பொன் சாதி அம்மியுமாக செய்து
வேலை செய்யும் முக்கு . . . .

பக்கம் 2) வரி 1) கூலியும் கூளம் வயல் பங்கு படியும்
பெத்துக் கொண்டு . . . . யிந்தக் கடு ஆன காலவரை
அந்தத்தில் மேலெழுதிய கடன் கை மு . . . . .

வரி 2) - யிந்தச் சீட்டைப் பெத்துக் கொண்டுவேளாகவும்
யிருந்தும் விலாகி முன் முகம் தப்பிப் போகாமலும்
வேலைக்கி சண்டிவாளம் செய்யாமலுமிரு . . . .

வரி 3) யியுமாக மை சாலை முகமங்கலத்திலிருக்கும்
யென் மச்சியன் காத்தான் சாம்பான் மகன் மாரியினுடைய
கையெழுத்தும் யிதில் வாங்கிக் கொடுத்து . . . . .

வரி_4) கையெழுத்து வைத்துக் கொடுத்தேன் யிந்த --- கீறல் கூத்தன் மகன் ராமன் கையெழுத்து- ஆ.முத்தியசெட்டி அறிவேன்

வரி_5) யிந்த -- கீறல் காத்தான் மகன் மாரி கைஎழுத்து வெ.வெங்கிடசாமி அய்யேன் மெட்டெழுத்து.

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அடிக்குறிப்புகள்:

1) கி.பி.1857 ஜூன் மாதம் 11 ஆம் தேதி

2) சுவடி ஓரத்தில் பழுதடைந்துள்ளது.

3) குத்தாலம் தாலுகா சாயனாபுரம் கிராமத்திலிருந்து தரங்கம்பாடித் தாலுகா சாலை ஒழுகைமங்கலம் கிராமத்திற்கு வந்திருக்கும் கூத்தன் சாம்பான் மகன் ராமன், மு.அப்பாசாமி செட்டியார் வசம் தன்னைப் பண்ணையாளாக ஒற்றி (அடமானம்) வைத்துக்கொண்டு கடன் பெறுவதற்கான சீட்டு இது. இச்சுவடியின் முதற் பக்க ஓரத்தில் "மூன்" என்று மையால் எழுதப்பட்டுள்ளது. "ராமன்" என்ற பண்ணையாளைக் குறிக்கும் சுவடி இது என்பதற்காகச் சுருக்கெழுத்தில் இவ்வாறு எழுதப்பட்டுள்ளது.

ஏடு-5 P.L.D. 78/79

பக்கம் 1) வரி 1) ஸ்ரீஅளமெயஅ உமு மேப் மீ யஅ உ(1) தயங்கப்பாடித்(2) தாலுக்கா சாத்தங்குடியிலிருக்கும் மு. மு. மு. அப்பாசாமி செட்டி . . (3)

வரி 2) ஊதூர்(4) பளுத்தெருவிலிருக்கும் சிலம்பப் காலாடி மகன் பள்ளபாலன் யெழுதிக் கொடுத்த பண்ணை ஆள் ஒத் . . . (5)

வரி 3) பவெற்றால் தங்களுடைய பண்ணையிலிருந்து வேலை செய்து வருகிறதாக ஒப்புக்கொண்டு தங்களிடத்தில் கட . . .

வரி 4) ண்டது ருசா(6) யிந்த ரூபாயி ஆயும் முன் ஜெருக்கம் பத்திக்கொண்ட படியினாலே தங்களுடைய பண்ணை வேலை முதல . . . .

வரி 5) ணையும் யாதொரு தாவடை யில்லாமல் ஆம் யெப் பொய்சாதி காத்தியும் செய்ய வேலை செய்யும் ஓ . . . .

பக்கம் 2) வரி 1) க்கு ஒரு படி கூலியும் களம் வயல் பங்கும் பெத்துக்கொண்டு வருவேனாகவும் யிந்தபடி சம்மதத்து சாக்ஷிகள்(7) முன்பு . . .

வரி 2) யொப்பம் வைத்துக் கொடுத்தேனாகவும் நெட்டெழுத்து உள்பட தா. வீரபத்திரப் அறிவேன்(8)

வரி 3) உ. ஒம்பலக்க செட்டி அறிவேன்

வரி 4) முத்திய செட்டி அறிவென்(9)

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அடிக்குறிப்புகள்:

1) கி.பி.1858 ஆம் வருடம் மே மாதம் 18 ஆம் தேதி.

2) தரங்கம்பாடி என்பதன் பேச்சு வழக்கு.

3) ஓலைச்சுவடி, ஓரத்தில் முறிந்திருப்பதால் எழுத்துகள் அழிந்துள்ளன.

4) "மேற்படியூர்" என்பது இவ்வாறு எழுதப்பட்டுள்ளது.

5) மு. அப்பாசாமிச் செட்டியார் என்ற நிலச்சுவான்தாரிடத்தில் பள்ளர் இனத்தைச் சேர்ந்த பாலன் என்பவனும் அவனது மனைவி காத்தி என்பவளும் தம்மைப் பண்ணையாள்களாக ஒற்றி (அடமானம்) வைத்துக்கொண்டதற்காக எழுதிக்கொடுத்த கடன் சீட்டு இது.

6) ரூபாய் 6.

7) "சாட்சிகள்" என்பது இவ்வாறு தவறாக எழுதப்பட்டுள்ளது.

8) இச்சுவடியின் முதற்பக்க ஓரத்தில், "யிந்த கிறல் --- பாலன் கைக் கீறல் யிந்த கிறல்---காத்தி கை கீறல்" என எழுதப்பட்டுள்ளது. ஓலைச்சுவடி எழுதிய தா. வீரபத்திரன், பாலனிடத்திலும் அவன் மனைவி காத்தியிடத்திலும் சுவடியைப் படித்துக்காட்டி அவர்களது ஒப்புதலுக்கு அடையாளமாகக் கைக்கீறல் பெற்று, அதனைக் குறித்துள்ளார் எனலாம்.

9) உ. கும்பலிங்க செட்டி, முத்திய செட்டி ஆகியோர் சாட்சிக் கையொப்பம் இட்டுள்ளனர்.

ஏடு-6 P.L.D. 82/79

பக்கம் 1) வரி 1) ஞுஅளருயகூ ஞுலாயிம் யச உ[1]
தரங்கம்பாடித் தாலுக்கா சாத்தங்குடியிலிருக்கும் மு. அப்பாச்சாமி
செட்டியாரவர்களுக்கு னஉ தாலுக்காக யெழுக்கிட்டாஞ்சே(ரி)

வரி 2) வெட்டியார்ச் சேரியிலிருக்கும் வெட்டியார் சின்னப்பன்
யெழுதிக் கொடுத்த ஆளொத்திக் கடன் சீட்டு[2] யென்னமென்டால்
தங்கள் நஞ்சை புஞ்சை வகையறுநிலங்க . . . .

வரி 3) சாகுபடி செயிகிறதர்க்கும் உழவுமாடு வகையறு மேயிச்
குறதர்க்கு.. யென்மகன் மாணிக்கத்தை விட்டு வேலை செயிகிறதர்க்
காக நான் தங்களிடத்திலே வைத்த

வரி 4) ரொக்கம்பத்திக்கொண்டது ருஉ[3] ஐந்த ரூபாயி
மேலும் நான் ரொக்கம் பத்திக்கொண்ட படியினால் மே
சொல்லப்பட்ட மாடு மேயிக்கிறதர்க்கு மீசு- கி ரு மு[4] ஆக
ஆவணி மாத முதல் மா . . .

வரி 5) தம் மாதச் சம்பளத்தில் னஉ பணத்துக்கு இடு[5]
செயிது போடுவேனாகவும் அப்படி இடு செய்யாவிட்டாலும் னஉ
மாடு மேயிக்க தவக்கப் பட்டாலும் வதில் ஆள்[6] கொண்டு

பக்கம் 2) வரி 1) வந்து விடுகிறதுந்தவிர அசலும் கன்றை காவடி
வகையறு முதல, ஏதம் பத்திக்கொண்ட னஉ பணத்துக்கு ஆடும்
பொருள் அசையாப் பொருளான சொத்துக்கள்

வரி 2) பேரில் தொடர்ந்து பெத்துக் கொள்ள சம்மதித்து
சாட்சிகள் முன்னுக்கு இதில்யென் கையெழுத்து வைத்துக் குடுத்தேன்

வரி 3) னஉயார் காரியம் தம்பூ ஐ அறிவேன்[7]

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<u>அடிக்குறிப்புகள்:</u>

1) கி.பி.1859 ஆம் வருடம் ஜூலை மாதம் 14 ஆம் தேதி.

2) வெட்டியார் இனத்தைச் சேர்ந்த சின்னப்பன் என்பவன் தனது மகன் மாணிக்கத்தை ஒற்றி (அடமானம்) வைத்து, நிலச் சுவான்தார் மு. அப்பாசாமிச் செட்டியாரிடத்தில் கடன் வாங்குவது குறித்த சீட்டு.

3) ரூபாய் 3

4) மாதம் 1-க்கு ரூபாய் ½

5) "ஈடு" என்பது இவ்வாறு எழுதப்பட்டுள்ளது.

6) "பதில் ஆள்"

7) மு. அப்பாசாமி செட்டியாரின் காரியதரிசி கையொப்பம் போலும். "ராம. தம்பி" என இருக்கக்கூடும். ஓலைச் சுவடியின் முதற் பக்கத்தில் "இந்த கீறல் - சின்னப்பன் கைநாட்டு" என ஓரத்தில் எழுதப்பட்டுள்ளது. வெட்டியார் சின்னப்பனின் கைக்கீறலைப் பெற்று, ஓலைச்சுவடி எழுதியவர் குறித்துள்ளார் எனலாம்.

ஏடு - 7 P.L.D. 89/79

பக்கம் 1) வரி 1) ஸ்ரீஅப்சாயசா யேப்பிறல் ம உயஉ (1)
மாயூரந் தாலுக்கா தயங்கம்பாடியைச் (2) சேர்ந்த் சாத்தங்-
குடியிலிருக்கு (3)

வரி 2) மு.மு.மு. செட்டியார் அவர்கள் அப்பாச்சாமி
செட்டியார் இவர்களுக்கு உைட தாலுக்காக யெருக்கிட்டாஞ்செரி
செட்டியார்ச் சேரி

வரி 3) யிலிருக்கு (3) செட்டியார் சின்னப்பன் மகன் மாணிக்கம்
யெழுதிக் குடுத்த பண்ணையாள் ஒத்திசீட்டு (4) யென்னவென்றால்
தங்களி

வரி 4) டத்தில் நான் பண்ணை வேலை செய்து வருகிறதுக்கு
யென் கலியாணத்துக்கு கடனாக பத்திக்கொண்டது செ.ரும்பின்

வரி 5) ரு யரு (5) ருகவும் பத்து உளத்துக்கு கிரையம்
ரு ம ஆக ரும உ கசி ரு ய அ (6) ரூந்த பதினெட்டு
ருபாயும் நான் தங்களி

பக்கம் 2) வரி 1): டத்தில் ரொக்கம் (7) பத்திக் கொண்டப்
படியால் தங்களுடைய பண்ணை வேலை மத்த வேலைகள்
நானும் யென் பெண்சாதியும்

வரி 2) வேலை செய்ய வருகிறது. வேலை செய்கிற நாள்
ஒன்றுக்கு அசலுக்கு ஒத்த கூலியும் களம் வயல் களவடி
முதலானது களு

வரி 3) ம் பத்திக்கொள்ளுகிறது. உைட வேலைகளில் செய்ய
தவக்கப்பட்டாலும் நான் முகம்தப்பிப் போனாலும் சீட்டு
பிறந்த தேதி முதல்

வரி 4) ள க்கி க (8) வட்டி கட்டி கூடிய வட்டியு முதலும்
தங்களுக்கு ரொக்க (3) செலுத்தி வைக்க கடனாளியும்
பிணையாளியுமாக யென் தகப்ப

வரி 5) ம் கையெழுத்தும் வாங்கிக் கொடுத்த சாட்சிகள் முன்பாக இதில் என் கையெழுத்தும் வைத்துக் கொடுத்தேன்.

வரி 6) நெட்டெழுத்து உள்பட அ. சேழப்பநா மகன் ராமசாமி ஓ(9)

வரி 7) வெருக்கிட்டாஞ்சேரி ராமலிங்கம் மகன் கண்ணாடிசி... தேசூர் ச. காரியம் சின்ன பிள்ளை அறிவேன்(10)

அடிக்குறிப்புகள்:

1) கி.பி. 1866 ஆம் வருடம் ஏப்ரல் மாதம் 20 ஆம் தேதி.
2) "தரங்கம்பாடி" என்பதன் பேச்சு வழக்கு.
3) "ம்" என்ற எழுத்து மட்டும் கிரந்த எழுத்தாக எழுதப்பட்டுள்ளது.
4) பண்ணையாளை ஒற்றி வைத்து (அடமானம் வைத்து)க் கடன் வாங்குவதற்கான சீட்டு என பொருள் படும். தன்னை ஒற்றிவைத்துக்கொள்ளும் மாணிக்கமும், அவனது தகப்பன் சின்னப்பனும் கல்வியறிவில்லாதவர்களாதலால் கையொப்பத்துக்குப் பதிலாகக் கைக்குறல் இட்டுள்ளனர். சுவடியின் முதற் பக்கத்தில் இடப்புறம், "யிந்த [illegible] குறல் மாணிக்கம் கைகுறல் இட்டு யிந [illegible] குறல் சின்னப்பன் கைனாட்டு குறல்" என்ற வாசகம் காணப்படுகிறது.
5) செல்லைப் பட்டிணம் ஒம்பிலி ரூபாய் 15.
6) "புதுவும் பழய நெல் 2 கலத்துக்குக் கிரயம் ரூபாய் 3 ஆக இந்த 2 வகைக்குச் சேர்த்து ரூபாய் 18" எனப் பொருள்படலாம்.
7) "ரொக்கம்" என்பது இவ்வாறு எழுதப்பட்டுள்ளது.
8) 100 க்கு 1.
9) "ஓலைச்சுவடி எழுதியர், அ. சேழப்பநாயக்கர் மகன் ராமசாமி நாயக்கர்" எனப் பொருள்படலாம்.
10) இந்த வரி, பக்கவாட்டில் எழுதப்பட்டுள்ளது.

ஏடு-8 P.L.D. 146/79

பக்கம் 1) வரி 1) ௲௮௱௭௰௧ ஆடி மீ ௰௩ உ(1) மாயபுரம் தாலுக்கா :காட்டுச்சேரியிலிருக்கும் நா. திருமுடி செட்டியாருக்கு உசயூர் வடக்கு

வரி 2) பறத் தெருவிலிருக்கும் சின்ன சாம்பான் மகன் காத்தான் யெழுதிக் கொடுத்த அள் ஒத்திக் கடச்சீட்டு(2) யென்னவென்றால்

வரி 3) தங்கள் பண்ணையில் நின்று வேலை செய்வதற்காக ரூம் யென் பொன்சாதியுமாக ரொக்க ஆண்டு கடந்த மே மீ ௨௰ (3)

வரி 4) யில் ரூபாயி அஞ்சுக்கும் நெல் கலம் தொண்ணூறும் நுங்கள் யெழுதிக் கொடுத்த ... பத்திரம் நிற்க ஞாக, தேதியில் நான் கடனாக வா

வரி 5) ங்கின ரூ-க-(4) யிந்த ரூபாயி ஒன்றும் முன் பத்தக் கொண்டபடியினாலே முன் யெழுதிக் கொடுத்த யிரக்குற சீட்டில் கண்ட வாசகப்படி

பக்கம் 2) வரி 1) தங்கள் பண்ணையில் நின்று தாங்கள் யிடப்பட்ட வேலைகளை தவக்கமன்னியில் செய்து வருவேனாகவும் தங்கள் பண்ணையைவிட்டு

வரி 2) வெலவும் காலத்தில் முன்சீட்டு பணமும் நெல்லும் யிந்த பணமும் காலவிரை அத்தத்தில் கொடுக்க சம்மதித்து சாட்சிகள் முன்புக்கு

வரி 3) திருமுடி செட்டியாருக்கு காத்தான் யெழுதி கொடுத்த பண்ணை ஆள்கடன் சீட்டு.

அடிக்குறிப்புகள்:

1) கி.பி. 1871 ஆம் வருடம் ஆடி மாதம் 13 ஆம் தேதி ஜூலை மாதம் 13 ஆம் தேதியும் ஆடி மாதம் 13 ஆம் தேதியும் சமமாகக் கொள்ளப்பட்டிருப்பதாகத் தெரிகிறது.

2) சின்ன சாம்பான் மகன் காத்தானும், காத்தானது தமையனும் நா. திருமுடி செட்டியாரிடத்தில் தம்மைப் பண்ணையாளாக ஒற்றி வைத்துக்கொள்வதற்கான சீட்டு.

3) மே மாதம் 29 ஆம் தேதி.

4) ரூபாய் 1

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பக்கம் 1) வரி 1) ஆங்கிரச ஆடி மீ ய உ[1]
மாயபுரந் தாலுகா காட்டு சேரியிலிருக்கும் நா. திருமுடி
செட்டியாருக்கு.

வரி 2) வைத்தூர் சேரியிலிருக்கும் வெட்டியார் தொப்பை
தாயார் அம்மையமுத்து எழுதிக் கொடுத்த பண்ணைச் சீட்டு[2]
என்னவென்றால்

வரி 3) தங்கள் பண்ணையில் நின்று கயிவளை[3] பறச்சியாக
நடவு நட்டு வருகிறதுக்காக ஒப்புக்கொண்டு தங்களிடத்தில்
ரொக்கம்

வரி 4) பத்திக் கொண்டது ரு ரு[4] - யிந்த ரூபாய்
அரையும் முன் ரொக்கம் பத்திக் கொண்ட (படி) யால்
நடவு காலங்களில் யாதொரு குறவில்லாமல்

வரி 5) நடவு நட்டு வருகிறது அதற்காக தங்கள் பண்ணையில்
ரு[5] - பங்கும் அசலுக் கொப்பந்தம் கூலியும்[6]
பெத்துக்கொண்டு

பக்கம் 2) வரி 1) வருஷம் உ[7]க்கு தங்கள் பண்ணையில்
நின்று வேலை செய்து வருகிறது யிந்தபடி சம்மதிச்சு யிதில்
மெய் கையொப்பம்

வரி 2) வச்சிக் குடுத்தேன் யிந்த --- கறல்
அம்மைமுத்து கைநாட்டு[8] நெட்டெழுத்து நா. வாத்தியார்
சிவாசக ப[9] அறிவேன்.

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அடிக்குறிப்புகள்:

1) கி.பி. 1872 ஆம் வருடம் ஆடி மாதம் 14 ஆம் தேதி என எடுக்கொள்ளலாம்.

(மாயூரம் (மயிலாடுதுறை) தாலுகா, கி.பி. 1860 ஆம் ஆண்டுக்குப் பின்னரே உருவாக்கப்பட்டது) ஆடிமாதம் 14 ஆம் தேதி என்பது ஜூலை மாதம் 14ஆம் தேதிக்குச் சமமாக கருதப்பட்டுள்ளது)

2) நா. திருமுடி செட்டியார் என்பவரிடத்தில், வெட்டியார் தொப்பை என்பவரின் தாயாராகிய அம்மைமுத்து என்பவர் பண்ணையாளாகத் தம்மை ஒப்பந்தம் செய்துகொள்ளும் சீட்டு.

3) கைவினை (Manual Labour) எனப் பொருள்படும்.

4) ரூபாய் ½

5) ½

6) ஒப்பந்தக்கூலி என்ற தொடர் குறிப்பிடத்தக்கது.

"Indentured Labour" என பிரிட்டிஷ் இந்திய வரலாற்றில் இத்தொடர் குறிப்பிடப்படும்.

7) வருடம் 2

8) அம்மைமுத்து கல்வியறிவு அற்றவராகையால், அவரிடம், மூலச் சுவடியை எழுதியவர் சுவடி வாசகங்களைப் படித்துக் காட்டி, அவரது கையொப்பத்திற்குப் பதிலாகக் கைக் கீறலினைப் பெற்று அதனைக் குறித்துள்ளார்.

9) சுவடியை எழுதி, சாட்சியைக் கையொப்பமும் இட்டவர் வாத்தியார் (ஆசிரியர்) நா. சீனிவாசக பிள்ளை என்பவராவார்.

ஆவணக்காப்பகமும் அதன் பயன்களும்

* திரு ஜெ. ஜெயச்சந்திரன், எம். ஏ.,
உதவி ஆணையர்,
தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக்காப்பகம்,
எழும்பூர், சென்னை. 8.

'ஆவணங்கள்' என்றால் பொதுவாக அரசு ஆவணங்களையே குறிக்கும். அரசு ஆவணங்கள் 'பொது ஆவணங்கள்' (Public Records) என்று அழைக்கப்படுகின்றன. அரசு நிர்வாகப் பணிகள் காரணமாக உருவாக்கப்படும் ஆவணங்கள் பிற்காலத்தில் வரலாற்று ஏடுகளாக கருதப்படுகின்றன. இத்தகைய பொது ஆவணங்களைப் பாதுகாத்து வைத்திருக்கும் இடமே ஆவணக்காப்பகம்.

இக்காப்பகத்தில் மிகப் பழைய ஆவணமாகக் கருதப்படுவது 1670ஆம் ஆண்டைச் சார்ந்த 'பொதுத்துறை' ஆவணமாகும். இங்கு கிழக்கிந்திய கம்பெனி ஆவணங்கள், கிரௌன் ஆவணங்கள், தலைமைச் செயலக ஆவணங்கள், வருவாய் வாரிய ஆவணங்கள் என பல்வேறு துறைகளுக்குரிய ஆவணங்களும், டச்சு, டேனிஷ், பெர்சியன், மராட்டி, மோடி மற்றும் தமிழ் மொழிகளிலும் ஆவணங்கள் உள்ளன. ஏறக்குறைய கடந்த 320 ஆண்டு ஆவணங்கள் இங்கே பாதுகாக்கப்பட்டு வருகின்றன. இவை முந்தைய ஆட்சி, நம் கலை, கலாச்சாரம், அரசியல் சமூகப் பொருளாதார மாற்றங்கள், அரிய திட்டங்கள் போன்ற பல பொருள்களைப் பற்றிய செய்திகளைத் தருகின்றன.

இந்த ஆவணக்காப்பகம் உருவாக, முன்பு சென்னை கவர்னராக இருந்த "வில்லியம் பெண்டிங்" என்பவரே காரணம். 1805ல் இவர் பல்வேறு துறைகளில் உருவாக்கி வைக்கப்பட்டிருந்த ஆவணங்கள் அனைத்தையும் ஒருங்கிணைத்து ஆவண மையம் ஒன்றை கோட்டைச் சதுக்கக் கட்டிடத்தில் துவக்கினார். இதற்காக நீண்ட அனுபவம் பெற்ற முத்தையா என்ற நம் நாட்டவரை முதலில் ஆவணக்காப்பாளராக நியமித்தார். 1908ல் இந்த ஆவணங்கள் அனைத்தையும் கோட்டையிலிருந்து, புதிதாக எழுப்பப்பட்ட எழும்பூர் கட்டிடத்திற்கு மாற்றினார்கள். அன்று முதல் கோட்டையிலுள்ள அரசுத் துறைகளுக்கு தினமும் தேவைப்படும் ஆவணங்களை அனுப்புவது,

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* 28.4.93 அன்று அகில இந்திய வானொலியில் ஆற்றிய உரை.

பணி முடிந்ததும் அவற்றை திரும்பப்பெறுவது ஆகியவை முக்கிய பணியாக இங்கு நடைபெறுகிறது.

இங்கு மாற்றப்பட்ட ஆவணங்கள் யாவும் ஆவணப்பாதுகாப்பிற்காகவே உருவாக்கப்பட்ட ஒன்பது மிகப் பெரிய ஆவண அறைகளில் வைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன. ஒவ்வொரு ஆவண அறையின் பரப்பளவு சுமார் 4000 சதுர-அடியாகும். இவை ஒவ்வொன்றிலும் சுமார் 1,60,000 கன அடி அளவு ஆவணங்களை வைத்து பாதுகாக்கலாம். மூன்று அடுக்குகள் கொண்ட ஒவ்வொரு ஆவண அறையிலும் 350 அடுக்குகள் (Racks) உள்ளன. இந்த ஆவண அடுக்குகள் துத்தநாகம் பூசப்பட்ட இரும்புத் தகடுகளால் உருவாக்கப்பட்டவை. ஆவண அறையின் தரை கடப்பா கற்களால் உருவாக்கப்பட்டது. சுவர்ப்பகுதி சலவைக் கற்கள் பதிக்கப்பட்டது. ஆவணங்கள் பூச்சிகளால் தாக்கப்படாமல் இருக்கவும், காற்று வசதிக்காகவும், போதிய வெளிச்சத்திற்காகவும் ஒவ்வொரு ஆவண அறையிலும் சுமார் 100 ஜன்னல்கள் உள்ளன. காற்று, வெளிச்சம் போன்றவை தாராளமாகக் கிடைக்குமாறு இவை அமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன.

ஆவணங்களை அறிவியல் முறையில் பாதுகாத்து நிர்வகிப்பது இக்காப்பகத்தின் மற்றொரு முக்கிய பணியாகும். ஆவணங்களை நீண்ட காலம் அப்படியே அவற்றின் தன்மை கெடாமல் வைத்திருப்பது மிகவும் கடினமான பணியாகும். சாதாரணமாக 20-30 வருடங்களில் பெரும்பாலும் காகிதம் பழுப்படைந்து உளுத்து வீணாகிவிடும் தன்மை படைத்தது. நவீன பாணியில் பாதுகாப்பு நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுத்தால் மட்டுமே அவற்றை கெட்டுப்போகாமல் பல ஆண்டுகள் பாதுகாக்க இயலும். இவற்றைப் பாதுகாக்கும் பொருட்டு முதலில் ஆவணங்களின் அமிலத்தன்மை போக்கப்படுகிறது. பின்னர் இந்த ஆவணங்களுக்கு காஉஷ்மீரிலிருந்து வரவழைக்கப்பட்ட சிஃப்பான் துணியை இருபுறமும் ஒட்டி அவற்றின் தன்மை மேம்படுத்தப்பட்டு நீண்ட நாள் உபயோகத்திற்கு பயன்பட செய்யப்படுகிறது. அமெரிக்க முறையான லேமினேஷன் பாணியிலும் ஆவணங்களுக்கு பாதுகாப்பு தரப்படுகின்றது. இதனால் அவற்றை உபயோகிக்கும் காலமும் அதன் தரமும் நீடித்திருக்க வகை செய்யப்படுகின்றன. தவிர ஆவணங்களில் சேர்ந்துவிடும் மிக நுண்ணிய உயிர்க்கிருமிகள், வெள்ளை அணுக்கள், பாசி, பூஞ்சக்காளான், கால வேறுபாடுகளால் தோன்றும் பல்வேறு கிருமிகள் முதலியவைகளை

முதலியவைகளை அழிக்க ஒரு நவீன இயந்திரம் அமெரிக்காவிலிருந்து வாங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. அதன் பெயர் 'வேக்குவம் ப்யூமிகேஷன் சேம்பர்ஸ்" என்பதாகும். இந்தச் சேம்பரில் உள்காற்றை நீக்கிவிட்டு, ஒரே நேரத்தில் சுமார் 500 ஆவணக்கட்டுகளை அடுக்கிவைத்து இரசாயனப் புகையூட்டம் செய்யப்படுகிறது. இதனை இரண்டொரு நாள் வைத்திருந்து பின்னர் சேம்பரிலிருந்து ஆவணங்கள் திரும்ப எடுக்கப் பெறுகின்றன. இதனால் புழு, பூச்சிகள் அழிக்கப்பட்டு தாட்களின் மூலங்கள் கெட்டுப்போகாமல், அடிப்படை பாதுகாப்புப் பணிகள் செய்யப்படுகின்றன.

ஆராய்ச்சிப் பணிக்கு உதவுவது இக்காப்பக முக்கியமான வேலைகளில் ஒன்று. இங்கு வரலாற்று ஆராய்ச்சிகளுக்கு வரும் மாணவர்கள், பேராசிரியர்கள் போன்றவர்களுக்கு ஆவணங்கள் வழங்கப்படுகின்றன. பட்ட மேற்படிப்பு முடித்து "எம்.பில்.", "பி.எச்டி." போன்ற ஆராய்ச்சி பட்டம் பெறுவதற்காகவும், ஆராய்ச்சி நூல்கள், கட்டுரைகள் எழுதவும் இங்கு பலர் வருகின்றனர். இத்தகைய ஆராய்ச்சியாளர்கள் குறைந்த கட்டணம் செலுத்தியபின் அனுமதி வழங்கப்படுகின்றது. வரலாற்று ஆராய்ச்சியாளர்களுக்கென தனி ஆராய்ச்சிக் கூடம் இக்காப்பக கட்டிடத்தில் அமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. 30 ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முந்தைய, இரகசியக் கோப்புகள் உட்பட, அனைத்து அரசு ஆவணங்களும் ஆராய்ச்சிக்கு வழங்கப்படுகின்றன. ஆராய்ச்சி மேற்கொள்பவர்களுக்கு தேவைப்படும் மூல ஆவணங்களின் நகல்கள் ஜெராக்ஸ், மைக்ரோபிலிம் போன்ற இயந்திரங்கள் மூலம் வழங்கப்பெறுகின்றன. ஆராய்ச்சிப் பணிக்கு உதவ ஒரு பெரிய நூலகமும் இங்கே உள்ளது.

இக்காப்பகம் பொதுமக்களுக்கும் பயன்படுகிறது என்பது பலருக்குத் தெரிய வாய்ப்பில்லை. அதில் ஒன்று அரசு அலுவல் ரீதியாக வெளியிடப்படும் கெசட் (Gazette) இதழ்களில் உள்ள தேவைப்படும் விஷயங்கள், அதாவது பெயர் மாற்றங்கள், நில ஏற்புகள், அரசின் பல்வேறு துறைகள் சார்ந்த அறிக்கைகள், தமிழ்நாடு தேர்வாணையம் நடத்தும் தேர்வுகளின் முடிவுகள் போன்ற அச்சிடப்பட்ட விவரங்களின் உண்மை நகல்கள் எழுத்துமூலம் கேட்பவர்களுக்கு வழங்கப்படுகின்றன. இதற்கு சிறிய கட்டணமும் உண்டு. மற்றொன்று தனிப்பட்ட நபர்களுக்காக அவர்கள் கோரும் விவரங்களை ஆவணங்களிலிருந்து அதில் கண்டவாறு நகல்களாக வழங்குகிறோம். இதற்கும் ஆண்டுக்கு இவ்வளவென்று தேடுகட்டணம் வசூலித்து அதன்பின்பு வழங்கப்படுகின்றன.

உதாரணமாக இக்காப்பகத்தில் உள்ள இருநூறு ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முற்பட்ட கிழக்கிந்திய கம்பெனியார்கள் ஆட்சி, ஆட்சியாளர்கள், தனிப்பட்ட அதன் ஊழியர்கள், அவர்கள் மேற்கொண்ட நடவடிக்கைகள் அல்லது அவர்களது பரம்பரைபரைகள் பற்றிய பல்வேறு செய்திகளையும் ஆவணங்களிலிருந்து தொகுத்து வழங்கப்படுகின்றன.

வரலாற்று ஆராய்ச்சி ஒன்று இந்த அலுவலகத்தில் இயங்கி வருகிறது. இம்மன்றத்தில் மற்றப் பணிகளுள் ஒன்று ஆராய்ச்சியை ஊக்குவிப்பது. பொதுமக்கள், மாணவர்கள், ஆசிரியர்கள், பேராசிரி-யர்கள், அரசு ஊழியர்கள் போன்ற பல துறையினரும் இக்காப்பகத்திலுள்ள ஆவணங்களைக்கொண்டு ஆராய்ச்சிக் கட்டுரை எழுத அது வாய்ப்பளிக்கிறது.

மேலும், ஆவணங்களைப் பொறுத்தமட்டில் பொது ஆவணங்கள் (Public Records) என்றும், தனியார் ஆவணங்கள் (Private Records) என்றும் பிரிக்கலாம். அரசு ஏற்படுத்தும் ஆவணங்கள் பொது ஆவணங்கள் என்றும், தனி மனிதர்களோ, தனியார் நிறுவனங்களோ உருவாக்கும் ஆவணங்கள் தனியார் ஆவணங்கள் என்றும் கருதப்படுகின்றன. தனியார் ஆவணங்களும் நமது பண்டைய பெருமை, கலாச்சாரம் மற்றும் நம் அரசியல் சமூக பொருளாதார அமைப்புகளின் பங்கு இவற்றை எடுத்துக்கூறவல்லன. இதற்கு மண்டல வரலாற்று ஆவண ஆய்வுக்குழு (Regional Committee for Survey of Historical Records) ஒன்று ஆவணங்களைச் சேகரிப்பதற்காக 1948 முதல் இயங்கி வருகிறது. அப்போது டாக்டர் பாலிகா, எம்.பி. பெரியசாமித்தூரன், டாக்டர் மு.வ. கே.ஏ. நீலகண்ட சாஸ்திரி ராஜா சர் முத்தையா செட்டியார், சத்தியநாத அய்யர் போன்றோர் அதன் உறுப்பினர்களாக இருந்தனர்.

இக்குழு தனியார் வசமுள்ள வரலாற்று சிறப்புமிக்க ஆவணங்களை வெளிக்கொண்டு வர பெருமுயற்சி செய்து வருகிறது. இக்குழு பெறும் தனியார் ஆவணங்கள் பற்றிய விவரங்களை பட்டியலிட்டு National Register of Private Records) தேசிய தனியார் ஆவணங்கள் பதிவேட்டில் சேர்ப்பதற்காக புதுடில்லியில் உள்ள தேசிய ஆவணக்காப்-பகத்திற்கு அவ்வப்போது அனுப்பப்படுகின்றன. தனியார் ஆவணங்களை வைத்துள்ளவர்கள் தகுந்த முறையில் அவற்றைப் பராமரிப்பதில் தனிக்கவனம் செலுத்தாமையினால் அவை பழுதடைந்துவிடுகின்றன. சில காணாமலும் போய்விடுகின்றன. இதனால் அவற்றில் உள்ள அரிய வரலாற்றுச்

செய்திகள் முழுமையான அளவில் வரலாற்று ஆராய்ச்சியாளர்களுக்குக் கிடைக்காமல் போகின்றன. எனவே இத்தகைய ஆவணங்களைத் தனியார்களிடமிருந்து பெறவும், தக்க முறையில் பாதுகாக்கவும், அழிந்து விடாமல் காப்பாற்றவும் அரசு வரலாற்று ஆவண ஆராய்ச்சிக் குழுவை ஏற்படுத்தியுள்ளது. இக்குழுவினர் மேற்கொண்டுள்ள பணியை ஊக்குவிக்கும் பொருட்டு தனி நபர்கள் தங்களிடம் உள்ள வரலாற்றுக்கு துணைபுரியத்தக்க ஆவணங்கள் தங்களிடம் இருக்குமானால் அவற்றைத் தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக்காப்பகத்தில் ஒப்படைக்கலாம். இதற்கு எந்தவிதமான முன்னேற்பாடுகளும் அவசியமில்லை.

ஆவணக்காப்பகம் அதன் ஆரம்ப காலம் முதல் சுமார் 500க்கும் மேற்பட்ட வெளியீடுகளை அவ்வப்போது வெளியிட்டு வந்திருக்கிறது. இவற்றுள் பழைய ஆவணங்களை அப்படியே அச்சிட்டு வெளியிடப்பட்டதே பெரும்பான்மையானவை. 1765ம் ஆண்டு வரையிலான ஆவணங்களை Reprint in extenso அதாவது உள்ளது உள்ளபடியே என்ற அடிப்படையில் வெளியிடப்பட்டுள்ளன. அதன்பிறகு அத்தகைய வெளியீடுகள் நிதி பற்றாக்குறையினால் வெளியிடப்படவில்லை. மூல ஆவணங்களை அச்சுப்படியில் பார்த்து குறிப்பெழுதுவது ஆராய்ச்சியாளர்களுக்கு எளிய நடைமுறை. ஆனால் 1765க்குப் பிறகு மூல ஆவணங்களையே ஆராய்ச்சியாளர்கள் பயன்படுத்துகிறார்கள். இதனால் ஆவணங்களின் பயன்பாடு அதிகரித்துள்ளன. இது தவிர்க்க இயலாது. Selection from the Records என்னும் ஒருவகை வெளியீடுகள் வந்துள்ளன. இவைகள் பெரும்பாலும் மாவட்ட ஆவணங்கள், ஃபோர்ட் செயின்ட் ஜார்ஜ் ஆவணங்களில் காணும் முக்கிய பொருட்களை தனித்தனி தலைப்புகளில் தொகுத்து வெளியிடப்பட்டுள்ளது. மாவட்ட விவரச்சுவடி (District Gazetteers) தயாரிக்க ஒரு தனிப்பிரிவு அதன் பதிப்பாசிரியர் தலைமையில் இங்கே செயல்பட்டு வருகிறது. இவற்றை தவிர்த்து காலாண்டு இதழாக "ஆவண அமுதம்" என்ற இதழ் கடந்த சில ஆண்டுகளாக வெளியிடப்படுகிறது. இதில் ஆராய்ச்சிக் கட்டுரைகள் மற்றும் ஆவணத்துறை செய்திகள் வெளியிடப்படுகின்றன.

சென்னையிலுள்ள தலைமை ஆவணக்காப்பகத்தை தவிர்த்து மாவட்டங்களில் 1982 முதல் கிளை ஆவணக்காப்பகங்கள் தோற்றுவிக்கப்பட்டன. கோவை, கடலூர், மதுரை, சேலம், திருச்சி ஆகிய இடங்களில் இக்காப்பகங்கள் அமைக்கப்பெற்றுள்ளன. இவைகள்

மாவட்டங்களிலுள்ள அரசு அலுவலகங்களிலிருந்து முப்பது ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முந்தைய வரலாற்று, நிர்வாக முக்கியத்துவம் வாய்ந்த ஆவணங்களை பெற்று பாதுகாக்கின்றன. ஆராய்ச்சியாளர்களுக்கும் வழங்குகின்றன. ஆவணக்காப்பகங்களின் பயன்களை பொதுமக்கள் அறிந்துகொள்ள வருடந்தோறும் "ஆவணக்காப்பக வாரவிழா" எல்லா ஆவணக்காப்பகங்களிலும் கொண்டாடப்படுகிறது.

ஆவணங்களைப் பாதுகாப்பது அரசின் பொறுப்பு என்றாலும் பொதுமக்களும் இப்பணியில் தங்களை ஈடுபடுத்திக்கொள்வது மிகவும் அவசியம். நமக்கும் நம் சந்ததியினருக்கும் தொடர்பு தருவதே ஆவணங்கள்தான். இப்போது நமது நாகரீகம் கலாச்சாரம், பண்பாடு, இலக்கியம் அனைத்திற்கும் காகித வடிவில்தான் விளக்கம் கொடுத்து வைத்திருக்கிறோம். இவற்றை வரும் தலைமுறையினருக்கும் பாதுகாத்துக் கொடுக்கவேண்டியது நமது கடமை. இவற்றை இழந்தால் திரும்பப் பெற இயலாது.

"ஆவணம் காப்போம் – அறிவை வளர்ப்போம்"

துறைச் செய்திகள்.

வ.எண்.	மாவட்ட ஆவணக்காப்பகம்.	31.10.93 வரை மையப்படுத்தப்பட்ட ஆவணங்கள் விவரம்.		
		மாவட்ட ஆவணங்கள்.	புத்தகங்கள்.	இதர ஆவணங்கள்.
1.	மதுரை	71861	3855	82 கட்டுகள் மோடி ஆவணங்கள்.
2.	கோயம்புத்தூர்	94851	3140	86950 மோடி ஆவணங்கள்.
3.	கடலூர்	91874	1136	8890 மோடி ஆவணங்கள்.
4.	திருச்சி	83480	1773	2519 மோடி ஆவணங்கள்.
5.	சேலம்	69708	--	--